Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-92-174
Tuesday
8 September 1992

Daily Report
Latin America

FBIS-LAT-92-174 8 September 1992

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An • indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

FRONT PAGE

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

Fidel Castro Interviewed by Uruguayan Daily *[Montevideo BRECHA 28 Aug]* 2
Fuel Shortage Prompts Havana Power Outages *[Madrid EFE]* 3
UN Envoy Seeks Condemnation of U.S. Embargo *[Havana TV]* 4
Embargo Blamed for 'Limitations' *[Havana Radio]* 4

Haiti

Bonivert Letter to Belizaire Protests Charges *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 4
Mondestin Refuses Role in Inquiry Committee *[Port-au-Prince TV]* 4
Aristide Representative: 'No Signs of Progress' *[Bonaire Radio]* 5
Bazin Reportedly in Dominican Republic on 4 Sep *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 5
Newspaper Labels OAS 'Racist, Negrophobic' *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 5

CENTRAL AMERICA

El Salvador

FMLN Commander on Creation of Political Party *[San Salvador Radio]* 6
FMLN Leader, Archbishop Comment *[San Salvador Radio]* 6
Reportage: Officials Accuse FMLN of Violations 7
Brigade Commander Cites Violations *[San Salvador TV]* 7
Vargas: FMLN Lacks Seriousness *[LA PRENSA GRAFICA 5 Sep]* 7
Minister Says Government Complying *[DIARIO LATINO 4 Sep]* 8
New 'Revolutionary Front' Issues Communique *[San Salvador Radio]* 8

Guatemala

Officials Reject Rights Violation Charges *[PRENSA LIBRE 2 Sep]* 9
Government Dismisses UN Resolution *[EL GRAFICO 2 Sep]* 9
Serrano Signs Accords, Concludes Visit to Taiwan *[EL GRAFICO 3 Sep]* 9
Belize Soldiers Reportedly Threaten Border Towns *[PRENSA LIBRE 2 Sep]* 10
Government Investigates *[SIGLO VEINTIUNO 4 Sep]* 10

Nicaragua

Government Announces New Police Director *[Managua Radio]* 11
Chamorro Addresses Swearing-In *[Managua Radio]* 11
Minister Highlights Police Law *[Managua Radio]* 12
New Police Director Comments *[Managua Radio]* 13
Reactions to Dismissal of Police Chief Noted *[Hamburg DPA]* 13
CPDH Meets U.S. State Department Officials *[Managua Radio]* 14
President Chamorro Rejects U.S. Pressure on Aid *[Panama City ACAN]* 14
FSLN Issues Communique Following U.S. Meeting *[EL NUEVO DIARIO 4 Sep]* 14
Daniel Ortega on Conditions for U.S. Aid *[Managua Radio]* 15
Ortega: Government Should Not Yield to U.S. *[Managua TV]* 15
D. Ortega Sends Letter to President Bush *[BARRICADA 3 Sep]* 16
Former Police Chief on Senator Helms' Report *[BARRICADA 3 Sep]* 17

Panama

Legislative Assembly Commissions Formed *[EL PANAMA AMERICA 4 Sep]* 17
Endara on Legislative Assembly, Other Issues *[Panama City Radio]* 18

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

Nuclear Energy Pact With U.S. Marks 'New Stage' *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 19
Condor-2 Project 'Halted' *[TELAM]* 19
Justice Minister Confirms Resignation *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 19
Deputy 'Strongly' Condemns U.S. Wheat Subsidies *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 20

Brazil

Collor Promises 'Prestige' for Supporters *[O GLOBO 4 Sep]* 20
Collor Addresses Letter to O GLOBO President *[O GLOBO 6 Sep]* 21
'Text' of Petition for Impeachment Released *[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 2 Sep]* 21
Pinheiro To Decide Secret or Public Vote *[Rio de Janeiro TV]* 26
Pressured for Quick Decision *[FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 5 Sep]* 26
Magalhaes Frees PFL Bloc To Vote Conscience *[O GLOBO 4 Sep]* 27
Parties Name Impeachment Committee Members *[Brasilia Radio]* 27
Government Holds Majority *[Brasilia Radio]* 27
Collor To Reshuffle Cabinet; Marques To Remain *[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 5 Sep]* 28
Military Heads Block Ministers' Replacement *[O GLOBO 5 Sep]* 28
Lafer Under 'Great Pressure' To Resign *[O GLOBO 5 Sep]* 28
Diplomats Leave Planalto; Alagoas Bloc Splits *[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 3 Sep]* 28
Military Fear Greater PT Presence With Itamar *[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 4 Sep]* 29
Vice President Franco's Behavior 'Discreet' *[O GLOBO 7 Sep]* 29
Franco Counts on 'Shock Battalion' To Defend Him *[O GLOBO 4 Sep]* 29
Vice President's Changing Attitude Viewed *[VEJA 2 Sep]* 30
Social Action Minister Interviewed on Crisis *[O GLOBO 3 Sep]* 31
First Lady Faces 'Yet Another' Investigation *[O GLOBO 3 Sep]* 32
Attorney General To File Charges Against Collor *[FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 3 Sep]* 32
Collor Attends Military Parade in Brasilia *[Rio de Janeiro TV]* 32
Government Urged To Fight Recession *[O GLOBO 7 Sep]* 33
Minister Marques Denies Economy at 'Standstill' *[Rio de Janeiro TV]* 33
UN Security Council Seat To Replace Ecuador *[Brasilia Radio]* 33

Colombia

Rebels Attack Pipeline; Three Children Die *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 33
Military To Counter Attacks *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 34
Conditions for Talks 'Vanished' *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 34
Government Will Not Be 'Coerced' *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 34
Dialogue 'No Longer Justified' *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 35
Pablo Escobar Issues Recorded Statement *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* 35

Ecuador

New Economic Measures, Fuel Prices Announced *[Quito Radio]* 36
VAT Extended to 'All' Sectors *[Quito Radio]* 36
Public Employees Reject "Salvation Measures' *[Quito Radio]* 36
Package 'Lacks' Economic Goals *[Quito Radio]* 36
Bombings, Propaganda Appear in Several Cities *[Madrid EFE]* 37
Armed Forces Deployed *[Quito Radio]* 37
Defense Minister on Counternarcotics Commitment *[Quito Radio]* 37
Customs Duties With Colombia To Be Removed *[Quito Radio]* 38
Government Supports Peace Efforts in Bosnia *[Quito Radio]* 38

Peru

President Fujimori Comments on New Tax Code *[Lima TV]* 38
Remarks on Election Laws *[Lima TV]* 39
Fujimori on Working Tours, Prison Conditions *[Lima TV]* 39
Car Bomb Destroys Precinct; Policeman Killed *[Lima Radio]* 40
APRA Will Not Participate in Elections *[Lima TV]* 41
Bolona Denies Central Reserve Bank Resignations *[Lima TV]* 41

Venezuela

President Perez Comments on Turpial Case *[Caracas TV]* 42
Defense Minister Remarks *[Caracas TV]* 42
Jimenez Denounces 'Destabilizing Groups' *[Madrid EFE]* 43
Defense Ministry Denies Prisioners' Transfer *[Caracas TV]* 43
Labor Leaders Charged With 'Influence Peddling' *[Caracas TV]* 43

Brazil

According to O GLOBO, President Collor promised 98 deputies "prestige with the government" once this "episode" is over and guaranteed his "solidarity with the deputies who support him." Collor spoke at a "dinner" organized by Deputy Ezio Ferreira, Liberal Front Party-Amazonas, who "did not warn the legislators" that Collor would be present. Presidential Spokesman Etevaldo Dias interpreted Collor's "promise" to mean "having access and participation in government plans and projects." At the meeting Collor said he was "confident the proposal for impeachment will not succeed" and reiterated that he is "personally taking care of political coordination to prevent the request for impeachment."

President Collor "will promote a ministerial cabinet reshuffle," O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO reports, "but will keep Economy Minister Marques Moreira in his post." Marques said he "intends to remain in the government" until the impeachment request is decided upon.

O GLOBO reports the "intellectual community is exerting great pressure on Foreign Minister Celso Lafer to leave the government." If other ministers leave by next week, "Lafer must also go," even if the economy minister stays.

Rio de Janeiro TV reports Chamber of Deputies President Ibsen Pinheiro "will decide tomorrow whether the vote on the request" for impeachment "will be public or secret." The commission in charge of deciding on the impeachment request will also be installed tomorrow. Pinheiro said he has the "political power" to "harmonize" the "indispensable legality and the speed that is required through appropriate regulations" to adopt a voting system with the commission.

Nicaragua

Managua radio announces the replacement of Police Chief Vivas with Commander Fernando Augusto Caldera as the new National Police director general. A new deputy government minister for citizen's security was also appointed. During the swearing-in ceremony President Chamorro stated, "I want the police force to be reorganized in my government. We want a professional, humane, and sincere police force capable of protecting citizens." "They should not bow to interests or to the guidance of any group or political party," Managua radio reports.

President Chamorro rejected "'slight pressures'" by the United States in exchange for the release of economic aid and said: "I will not sell by country to maintain good relations with the United States," reports ACAN.

Cuba

Fidel Castro Interviewed by Uruguayan Daily

PY0509023292 Montevideo BRECHA in Spanish 28 Aug 92 p 32

[Interview with President Fidel Castro by BRECHA correspondent Isabel Pisano in Galicia, Spain, on 27 July]

[Text] [Pisano] I have been waiting to interview you for 15 years.

[Castro] You are closer to it every minute that passes (he said laughing).

[Pisano] You are a symbol of our times. Do you do any soul searching?

[Castro] Every day and at any hour. Not when I go to sleep; otherwise I do not sleep.

[Pisano] Can the U.S. elections bring some changes in Cuba?

[Castro] We will have to go to Greece to see a pythoness, to hear what she has to say about it. The U.S. politicians are very much slaves of politics. It looks as if Clinton has a very good program, with a vice presidential candidate who is concerned about the environment. They will give a great battle. Although I will not be voting for anyone, I sometimes ask myself if it is not better to have someone who is already known to be bad than one good, but who is still to be known. But to me, either one is the same.

[Pisano] Are there signs of economic recovery in Cuba?

[Castro] No, none, and the situation continues to be very worrisome. We were able to produce more sugar, we have been able to resist in the three years since the famous socialist world was dissolved. I believe we are quite an example in the history of courage and heroism. I believe we are the most independent country on earth. Is there another more independent than us? The difficulties are worse every day, but we will try to overcome them.

[Pisano] You opened the possibility of foreign investment in Cuba. Are you not afraid that the United States could invade Cuba economically, like the Japanese did with the Americans?

[Castro] I hope so, but they do not want to. We have no capital, we have no technology, we have no market. We had to make some concessions.

[Pisano] What was the result of the first investments in Cuba?

[Castro] Excellent. They recovered their capital in three years. It is very good, specially in tourism.

[Pisano] Is it not strange that President Fraga [Manuel Fraga Iribarne, leader of the Spanish Popular Party] and you are almost brothers? Is there no longer any hate between the Left and the Right?

[Castro] My poor little heart, which has resisted the blows of these years, knows that there are things that are on the Right and on the Left. But I find nothing on the Right, I find everything on the Left.

[Pisano] What do you expect of the reforms you made recently?

[Castro] The improvement of our system. We try to solve our problems without selling our soul. What is the purpose of selling the soul? Our system is more democratic than any other, where political parties propose candidates and the parties choose. In our country the people propose candidates and the people choose. There are no presidential elections. I am not for that type of elections. I believe that the National Assembly must elect the president. In Italy, who elects the president? There are countries where the position of chief of state is inherited. No one questions the King of Spain, the Japanese Emperor, or the Queen of England. They all believe it is all right. How many people vote to elect the President of the United States? Twenty-five or 27 percent of the population.

[Pisano] What is left of the Che Guevara message about a new man for Latin America?

[Castro] Everything. The example given by these men is not near, but it is never too late when the cause is right.

[Pisano] Was it necessary to hold Noriega's trial?

[Castro] Noriega more than anyone else cooperated with the CIA in the struggle against drug trafficking, but he annoyed them because he refused to obey orders. They invaded the country, kidnapped him, and sentenced him. Drug trafficking is a Latin American tragedy, because peasants cannot live from selling corn and other crops. Jaime Paz said that the problem is not coca but those who make coca into poison.

[Pisano] What do you think of the U.S. airplanes overflying Colombia searching for drug trafficker Escobar? Is it not a territorial invasion?

[Castro] Look, that war will never be won without U.S. help, and it is absolutely necessary to put an end to that plague.

[Pisano] Does Cuba want to get close to Europe?

[Castro] It is good for us. Spain and Portugal can help us but they are two different worlds. We are separated by geography and the current historical circumstances. But is there anything left for us?

[Pisano] What were you expecting from the Madrid summit? Was there something left pending?

[Castro] Everything. But I should say that I felt good. Banquets, everything so tasty. Now we have to struggle to make Simon Bolivar's dream for Latin American

unity a reality. No one can separate us from that. We are involved in it, and I hope it can be done, I mean separate ourselves more from the United States and get a bit closer to Brazil. We are as divided as during the times of Columbus. We either move ahead or we will be nothing in the world of the future.

[Pisano] How did you feel entering your father's house?

[Castro] Full of love.... The old man used to feel "homesick," he used to tell me things about when he was a soldier in Cuba during the opportunistic U.S. war. But he wanted to return and he did. My father was very poor but a hard worker. He had a group of peasants; there was one who cared for the cattle and he suffered from sciatica. By then things had improved and this man became a cook in the house. He had a bad temper. I always remember that he reprimanded us. I also remember my father's sadness, but why am I talking about this...?

[Pisano] Why did Fidel Castro Diaz Ballart resign?

[Castro] He was fired for being inefficient. What kind of inefficiency? You want too much.... There was no resignation; he was fired. No, I was not annoyed because he was my son. There is no monarchy in Cuba.

[Pisano] You are often called a dictator in the foreign press....

[Castro] What does dictator mean? In my country there is no unipersonal government but a Council of State. I do not choose ministers, ambassadors, or anything. I have authority, I give my opinion, but any Latin American president has more power than I do. I am the one who has less chance to do what he wants in my country, and I do not have those dictatorial powers invented by Roman law. I only give an opinion, and this is what I am doing now.

[Pisano] Vargas Llosa said that the Cuban Revolution has affected negatively the Latin American democratic process....

[Castro] Who is Vargas Llosa? Who is he? From where? From Peru? And what has he written?

[Pisano] "The Praise of the Stepmother" [El Elogio de la Madrasta], "The City and the Dogs" [La Ciudad y los Perros]....

[Castro] Why does he not stay with his stepmother, his city, and his dogs...?

[Pisano] Do you only read Garcia Marquez...?

[Castro] It is the latest one I read, and the best.

[Pisano] What is the balance for Cuba from the declarations of the Madrid summit and the Guadalajara summit?

[Castro] Guadalajara is Mexico. Guadalajara is Latin America. The Aztecs fought hard in Guadalajara, with a heroism without precedent in history. Madrid was not invaded by the Aztecs. There is some difference. But the Madrid meeting was good.

[Pisano] Did anyone come up against the blockade?

[Castro] Not a word was said about the blockade. I talked about the blockade but I did not want to create a division, although I could have. Not everybody is courageous enough right now to tell the truth.

[Pisano] You said 30 years ago: "History will redeem me." Would you say the same thing today?

[Castro] I have to continue repeating it, and history has to continue to redeem me. The enemies will write my history, but my conscience is at ease. That was only a phrase before the judges who sentenced me. Now I see that I am struggling against the Yankees, against the imperialists, against domination and arrogance. And I say that perhaps 1,000 years will pass, but history will redeem me.

[Pisano] How will Cuba be after Castro?

[Castro] There have been hundreds of years of Cuba without Fidel, and hundreds of years can pass in Cuba without Fidel. I will be a sigh in history. I always remember what the Jesuits taught me: "Ashes to ashes and dust to dust." Very few people will remember me. Who remembers the dust unless he is a saint? Like the Apostle James, who receives visits from thousands of pilgrims from all over. And this I do not need, because I have to rest. This is my right.

Fuel Shortage Prompts Havana Power Outages

PA0709031692 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1814 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Report by Eduardo Yero]

[Text] Havana, 6 Sep (EFE)—Nightly power outages in Havana have become a "nightmare" for most residents of Cuba's capital city.

The scarcity of fuel on the island brought about by the disappearance of Socialism in Eastern Europe and the extinction of the USSR has obliged Cuban authorities to implement an electricity restriction program in all Havana municipalities and in other provinces.

In Havana the power outages take place from 1400 to 1700, 1700 to 2000, and 2000 to 2400. [as received]

The latter period, however, is the one that most irritates Havana residents because, aside from being the longest stretch without electricity, it does not allow them to watch television, listen to the radio, or stifle the intense heat with electric fans. It also makes it difficult for them to complete domestic chores.

Thus the Havana residents, with a marked spirit of "sportsmanship," go to Malecon where a fresh evening breeze blows, to the movies, or to the homes of relatives

and friends where they sit in front of the house to elude the effects of the power outage.

"I wish Thursday nights would never come because that is when the electricity is cut from 2000 to 0000 in my town, and I really suffer," a Playa housewife who requested that her name not be revealed said to EFE.

"Last Friday my husband and I had to take the dinner table out on the porch to be able to eat because the heat and the darkness were unbearable," Margarita, who lives in Guanabacoa in Eastern Havana, stated.

"Fortunately the outage only occurs once a week because otherwise it would be unbearable. It is true we have a petroleum problem and most people understand that the power outages are needed, but it is very difficult to adapt to them," an urban bus driver commented.

The official media has placed a special emphasis on the need to reduce the electricity consumption, both in the private and government sectors, to avoid further power outages.

The aforementioned power outage schedule will continue in Havana throughout September. It is not known how long the restrictions will continue as there does not seem to be a quick solution to the petroleum shortage.

According to official information, Cuba will only have approximately six million tons of petroleum at its disposal in 1992, compared to the 13.3 million tons of petroleum it received from the former USSR up to 1989.

UN Envoy Seeks Condemnation of U.S. Embargo

FL0509013492 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Text] Today, the United Nations began circulating as an official document a letter from Cuban Ambassador Carlos Zamora in which he asks for the condemnation of the U.S. embargo, which has lasted for more than three decades. The document sent to the secretary general denounces the economic, commercial, and financial aggression and explains that the embargo has recently been intensified.

The United States now prohibits ships which have traveled to Cuba within six months from entering its ports. Merchandise containing Cuban sugar cannot be shipped to the United States either. The Cuban denunciation points out that the embargo violates the UN Charter and calls for its condemnation during the 47th session of the General Assembly.

Embargo Blamed for 'Limitations'

FL0409145392 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0900 GMT 4 Aug 92

[Text] Jose Ramon Fernandez, vice president of the Cuban Council of Ministers, has stated in Mexico City that while the current economic situation in Cuba is difficult, 98 percent of the population under 14 years of age is nevertheless enrolled in school, and the infant mortality rate is 11 per 1,000 live births.

Fernandez added that limitations exist in Cuba basically because of the brutal U.S. embargo, but [asked] what other underdeveloped nation can match Cuba's achievements in the sectors of, among others, public health, education, and sports. Fernandez also denounced U.S. pressure against, and the persecution of those who wish to trade, invest, or entertain economic or political relations with Cuba. In this connection, Fernandez stressed that the Cuban people are grateful to Mexico for having kept its ties with Cuba stable for more than three decades, in keeping with the history of the Aztec nation.

Fernandez is in the Mexican capital to sign an agreement on cultural, educational, and sports exchanges with Mexico's Education Secretariat today. This agreement includes bilateral exchanges in education, literature, publishing, and other spheres for the years 1992, 1993, and 1994.

Haiti

Bonivert Letter to Belizaire Protests Charges

FL0409202892 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in French 1500 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] Following the formation of a senatorial committee in charge of investigating the intrigues of officials at the Bank of the Republic of Haiti [BRH], BRH Governor Bonivert Claude has sent a letter to President of the Senate Dejean Belizaire. In this letter, Bonivert asserts that it is not the duty of senators of the Republic, high state officials whose steps and statements should inspire confidence, to shake the foundations of the state by anathematizing high public servants whose credibility should guarantee the confidence of the business sector. To discredit uselessly the officials of an institution that is the keystone of the country's financial system cannot serve the cause that many claim publicly to be defending

Mondestin Refuses Role in Inquiry Committee

FL0409164292 Port-au-Prince Tele-Haiti in French 1030 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Italicized passages in Creole]

[Excerpts] In the Parliament, National Reconstruction Movement Senator Rony Mondestin has refused to participate in the special committee in charge of following up on statements made on 1 September by his colleague in the Grand 'Anse Department, Bernard Sansaricq. According to Sen. Mondestin, such an inquiry will never be brought to completion in an antidemocratic and unconstitutional climate. Furthermore, Sen. Mondestin said that such an important inquiry should be entrusted to the Supreme Audit and Administrative Litigation Office (CSCCA). Let us listen to the statements he made to Varrio Serran:

[Begin recording] [Mondestin] *... for an inquiry which is extremely important, but which unfortunately will be politicized in Haiti.*

[Serran] *What do you mean when you say it will be politicized?*

[Mondestin] *They will politicize it by saying that it is [stammers] political cliques that [words indistinct], that political cliques are at work. It is an inquiry into the management of public funds. At this time, they will politicize it.*

I further believe that there are many personal interests that make the completion of such an inquiry very difficult. There are three reasons, among others, but the basic reason is simply a reason ... [stammers, changes thought] This is not how to do it. It is the CSCCA that is responsible for conducting such an inquiry. If such an inquiry must be conducted, the CSCCA can certainly carry it out at the request of any citizen. This inquiry can also be initiated at the request of the Senate, on the basis of documents presented by a senator. I think such an inquiry can be implemented, but first must be carried out by the CSCCA. [passage omitted] [end recording]

It should be noted that Sen. Sansaricq's comments involved several points. On 1 September, the Grand 'Anse parliamentarian [Sansaricq] said to the Senate that $300 million had been embezzled under the Nerette-Honorat government, with the complicity of the current governor of the [Central] Bank [Bonivert Claude].

Sansaricq further claimed that some products, including sugar and cement, had allegedly entered the country, with the importers never having paid any tax to the Haitian Government. According to Sansaricq, these monopolies have allegedly existed with the help of the Ministry of Finance and the Central Bank. Bernard Sansaricq said that he had informed Prime Minister Bazin of this situation, but that Bazin has not taken the appropriate steps.

Sen. Sansaricq finally denounced to the Senate the fact that 1 percent of Haitian families is controlling the life and the future of the entire country. Those institutions and personalities accused by Sen. Sansaricq have not yet reacted formally.

Aristide Representative: 'No Signs of Progress'

FL0409145792 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] Organization of American States-sponsored talks on Haiti have continued in Washington with no signs of progress. The representative of ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, Antoine Adrien, said yesterday [3 September] that the discussions are not going as expected.

He told reporters he had anticipated that the talks would end on the first day, Tuesday [1 September]. Mr. Adrien refused to describe the talks in any further detail. He did outline Mr. Aristide's goal for the talks, which is to get the Haitian Government to accept an Organization of American States mission of civilian observers. That delegation would talk to the Haitian people about their views on the political crisis. Mr. Adrien said that this would pave the way for negotiations in Haiti and in restoring Mr. Aristide to power.

The two sides are expected to continue their discussions in Washington today.

Bazin Reportedly in Dominican Republic on 4 Sep

FL0409203692 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1800 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] Consensus Prime Minister Marc Bazin left Port-au-Prince incognito on 4 September to travel to the Dominican Republic. The news was confirmed by a member of the prime minister's private cabinet. The high ranking employee, who wished to remain anonymous, did not want to be specific about the objectives of this trip. However, a reliable source told Metropole editorial staff that Marc Bazin was due to meet with President Joaquin Balaguer.

The Haitian prime minister, on his first trip abroad since his appointment on 19 June, is scheduled to return to Port-au-Prince in the early evening.

Newspaper Labels OAS 'Racist, Negrophobic'

FL0409170992 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1400 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] In Port-au-Prince, the daily L'UNION has rejected results of the OAS-sponsored negotiations, in advance. In an editorial published yesterday [3 September], the daily L'UNION keenly criticized the OAS, describing its officials as racist, negrophobic, and little colonialists.

"Because we said no to state terrorism on 30 September 1991, along with the Haitian Armed Forces, those OAS racists continue to make us suffer," L'UNION has written.

El Salvador

FMLN Commander on Creation of Political Party

PA0409163592 San Salvador Radio Venceremos Network in Spanish 0150 GMT 2 Sep 92

[Interview with Joaquin Villalobos, director of the FMLN, by unidentified reporter on the occasion of the FMLN being constituted an official political party at the Camino Real Hotel in San Salvador—live]

[Text] [Reporter] Here is Commander Joaquin Villalobos. Commander: The entire nation is listening to us at this moment. How do you feel?

[Villalobos] This is an historic moment for the country and for our Front in particular. This has been another step in the peace process. This marks the beginning of a different political force. We hope this will contribute to transforming political party life in the country. We hope to be able to face successfully the challenge of becoming a force that will think more about national interests than about private interests.

[Reporter] Commander, you are now being introduced as a member of the directorate of the new political party. Are you still commander as well? What is your status?

[Villalobos] This is a special situation. Since the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] has been constituted as a political party, the organic structure of the organization has changed. This is something we had anticipated. As of now, the title of commander has passed into history. This title has to do with the former war period and will continue to play a role, but now an historic role.

[Reporter] Today you spoke about [late FMLN hero] Rafael Arce Zablah and other FMLN people who participated in the struggle. We can say that today marks the conclusion of a lengthy period. You were 17 or 18 years old when you joined the struggle. Did you ever think that someday you would be at the Camino Real Hotel signing documents constituting the FMLN?

[Villalobos] I will respond to this question by referring to a statement Rafael made many years ago, when we began, when we decided to rebel. He said that with that decision we had placed one foot in heaven and the other on the ground to dedicate ourselves to the struggle.

At that time we never dreamed that we would come out of the war alive. I have said this on several occasions. Our work basically was aimed at making our protest known at that historic moment. The opportunity to make their position known, had been denied to the country's democratic forces and to the revolutionary forces.

What is happening now is something we, the people, have made possible. This is no gift resulting from goodwill. This is the result of a struggle. Really, if I had been told 20 years ago that this was going to happen I would not have believed it.

[Reporter] Commander Villalobos, do you think that someday you will be president of the Republic?

[Villalobos] I am constantly being asked this question and I have categorically said that the main problem is to transform the country, to comply with the peace agreements, to make sure that we have a democratic state in the country—with the civilian population enjoying hegemony—and to have changes so that the workers may secure economic pull. If all this is secured, time will tell if it is necessary for us to assume a new responsibility, but for the time being our responsibility is to promote the peace effort.

[Reporter] One last question, Commander Villalobos. On 26 September we will commemorate another anniversary of the death of Commander Rafael Arce Zablah, your comrade-in-arms. Tell us something about Rafael. How do you think he would feel now. Tell us about the activities that have been prepared for this month in homage to Rafael Arce Zablah.

[Villalobos] I already told you about how he viewed the decision to take up arms at that moment. There is a long list of Salvadorans who belong to the Rafael Arce Zablah contingent, composed of exceptional men of extraordinary qualities. Some of them are now demobilized. I remember when he foretold that we would have control zones in the country, that the peasants would be the fundamental cadres who would make possible the revolutionary struggle. I remember when he said that ours would be, basically, a struggle for civilian hegemony. If he had not fallen perhaps we would have made fewer mistakes and we would have secured this situation earlier.

This month we will commemorate the 17th anniversary of his fall. We expect to be able to commemorate it in peace and give him the honor he deserves. In our organization, Rafael represents our dead, all those who fell, all the efforts that have been made.

[Reporter] Thank you very much, Commander Joaquin Villalobos, for this statement for Radio Venceremos.

FMLN Leader, Archbishop Comment

PA0409173292 San Salvador Radio Venceremos Network in Spanish 0150 GMT 2 Sep 92

[Interview with Salvador Samayoa, an FMLN leader, and San Salvador Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas by Radio Venceremos Director Carlos Consalvi and reporter identified only as Walter at the Camino Real Hotel in San Salvador—live]

[Text] [Consalvi] We are going to interview Salvador Samayoa, better known as Chamba Samayoa. Chamba, what is the meaning of this historic moment for El Salvador and the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front]?

[Samayoa] This is a very important moment for the entire country. This is a decisive step culminating a victorious struggle that has brought hopes to all our

people. This is taking place on a day when the people are angry with the economic policies of this government. We are beginning to emerge as a political party that will bring new hopes of a better future, of social justice, and of democracy to the majority of the Salvadoran people.

[Consalvi] Chamba, the FMLN looks like a big political force for the 1994 elections?

[Samayoa] There is no doubt about that. The FMLN is going to be a big political force in this country. I am certain it will be the largest and best organized political force that will struggle on the side of other democratic forces to seize power in 1994.

[Consalvi] Thank you. This has been Salvador Samayoa for Radio Venceremos, live. Go ahead Walter.

[Walter] Thank you, Carlos. Good evening Monsignor Rivera y Damas, for Radio Venceremos it is a pleasure to broadcast this live interview with you to the entire nation. Why are you here, Monsignor?

[Rivera y Damas] This event is very significant for me. For a long time we had been calling for a peaceful end to the conflict. I think that the ceremony that has taken place here is very important because the war is now behind us and the FMLN has taken a new road. I believe that I could not fail to be here to urge everybody to go on because we have always been of the opinion that struggles should be waged in political not war fields.

[Walter] Have you ever sworn in any other political party?

[Rivera y Damas] No. This is the first time and since I was offered this opportunity I wanted to take it. I also wanted to do it because I think this is a big commitment the FMLN has contracted.

[Walter] Doesn't this go against canon law provisions, sir?

[Rivera y Damas] Not at all. I did not join the party. I just attested that the FMLN has taken a new path. I hope that its members persevere on this road.

[Walter] Could this have compromised you, Monsignor?

[Rivera y Damas] No, I don't think so because we are living in liberty.

[Walter] Here is the director of Radio Venceremos, Carlos Consalvi.

[Consalvi] Monsignor, we remember that during the war, especially during the political struggle that was waged in the days of [President] Napoleon Duarte, there were some conflicts between the FMLN and the Catholic Church. It is very nice, we can say this, to see the Catholic Church, especially you, the archbishop of San Salvador, here today. You are showing the country with deeds how to promote reconciliation.

I don't know if you would like to comment on this, Monsignor?

[Rivera y Damas] Of course we are much in favor of this grand task of reconciliation. As we see it, reconciliation means the meeting of those who had been separated or who had differences. I believe that our presence could encourage many people to take a decisive step on the road to reconciliation.

[Walter] Thank you Monsignor Rivera y Damas.

Reportage: Officials Accuse FMLN of Violations

Brigade Commander Cites Violations

PA0609195592 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Text] Colonel Oscar Leon Linares, commander of the 4th Infantry Brigade, has accused the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] of violating the peace agreements by maintaining former armed fighters out of the sites assigned to them in Chalatenango.

According to Col. Leon Linares, the FMLN is maintaining its so-called security committees in Chalatenango. In addition to this, many FMLN fighters leave their concentration sites carrying weapons, something that represents a serious violation of the peace agreements, according to the colonel.

[Begin recording] [Leon Linares] We have had a series of problems with the FMLN here. Its security committees go out of the sites established for those personnel. They continue carrying out demonstrations, inclusive of areas where units are concentrated. This should not be allowed because we have never gone to any of their concentration sites.

[Reporter] Is this a violation, Colonel?

[Leon Linares] Of course it is a violation. We have reported this to the UN Observers for El Salvador. [end recording]

This interview was secured during the military exercises carried out by the 1st [as heard] Infantry Brigade.

Vargas: FMLN Lacks Seriousness

PA0609230392 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 5 Sep 92 p 4

[Text] The lack of political realism and willingness to comply with signed commitments "is surprising because it is not in keeping with nationwide peace efforts."

General Mauricio Ernesto Vargas made that statement as he assessed the most recent developments.

Vargas stated that the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] has shown a lack of seriousness in complying with the following:

1. presenting a genuine weapons inventory;
2. concentrating its combatants as agreed;
3. demobilizing combatants and surrendering their weapons;

4. improving [restauracion] public administration [as published];
5. eliminating the military structure.

The FMLN hardline refuses to comply with these points and its justifications are laughable.

Vargas said this attitude actually shows that the FMLN is panic-stricken when it comes to speaking the truth and insists on lying to its own combatants. The FMLN has always lied and made promises to it combatants, but it has never delivered.

The "rhetorical" statements of FMLN leaders can no longer deceive anyone because "fire cannot be wrapped in paper," Vargas added.

The FMLN leadership has promised too much and is forced to follow the same line in order to retain members "because they have so far failed to fulfill their promises." Moreover, widespread corruption has been detected among FMLN leaders.

As for compliance with commitments, Vargas said the FMLN, if it knows what moral values are, should reflect and realize that peace agreements must not be violated.

Minister Says Government Complying

PA0709153992 San Salvador DIARIO LATINO in Spanish 4 Sep 92 p 6

[Text] Presidency Minister Oscar Alfredo Santamaria today gave assurances that the government has made headway in complying with the dates outlined in the peace agreements following the arrival of UN Under Secretary General Marrack Goulding.

Santamaria said that over the past few days the government has worked at complying with the commitments undertaken with Goulding. Among the points worked on are the National Civilian Police, the Public Security Academy, an end to armed clashes, and the restoration of documents that are already in the hands of Onusal [UN Observers for El Salvador].

Santamaria said that the government has kept to most of its part of the agreements, "but that the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] still has a few points to comply with, and in this regard, Onusal's Colonel Victor Suanzes Pardo will be given a document today containing information on the points the FMLN has complied with up to now."

On another topic, the presidency minister announced that the request made by an FMLN spokesman to participate in Civic Week is not possible because the FMLN is not authorized to leave the assembly areas, and if it does this would contravene the peace agreements.

Regarding the 3 September request at the Legislative Assembly plenary meeting for salary increases to government and private enterprise workers, Santamaria said that this is not possible because the country's expenditures are greater than its income, but the increase might be possible in 1993, depending on the country's economy.

New 'Revolutionary Front' Issues Communique

PA0709162592 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Communique "to the Salvadoran people and international community" from the Salvadoran Revolutionary Front; date and place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] The Salvadoran Revolutionary Front [Frente Revolucionario Salvadoreno—FRS] emerges as a new alternative of struggle on behalf of the most dispossessed sectors of the country in view of the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] leadership's inability to stop the economic offensive launched by the Arena [Nationalist Republican Alliance] government against the poorest people.

The FRS is formed by combatants loyal to the principles of Farabundo Marti and by former members of the government Army who were used as tools during the war years.

We ask the FMLN General Command: What was the use of 12 years of struggle, more than 80,000 dead, 10,000 missing, and thousands of disabled comrades, if the causes for which we fought have intensified, and today the poor are even worse off than before the conflict? Therefore, beginning on Monday [7 September], our Front publicly declares war on the economy, with sabotage on transportation and power lines. We issue a call on the comrades who are in the [FMLN] concentration points to support with their weapons the causes of our struggle.

We remind the FMLN General Command that the revolutionary principle you taught us was to struggle for a just distribution of wealth and for a country without military men and for a system of life in which there is equality for all. We warn Arena, MAC [Authentic Christian Movement], and PCN [National Conciliation Party] that if laws to kill the Salvadoran people through hunger continue to be issued, our rifles will act in accordance with revolutionary justice. We remind the Salvadoran people, who are suffering as a result of the collusion between the government and the FMLN, that the FRS will watch over so that there will be no trifling with the dignity of a people subjugated to a system of life that responds only to the interests of the rich and forgets the majority.

Gentlemen of the government and the FMLN leadership, remember that the dignity of a combatant cannot be bought with hoes, shovels, and picks. We are not going to kneel and resign ourselves to simple protests. We are going to achieve the dream of all our dead comrades because our dignity cannot be bought or sold. The rifles will not be silenced while injustices exist in our country.

We live to struggle, we struggle to win!

Guatemala

Officials Reject Rights Violation Charges

PA0409163292 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 2 Sep 92 p 78

[Text] Acting President Gustavo Espina Salguero joined the group of officials who have rejected categorically the accusations by the Multipartite Commission with regard to human rights violations against the inhabitants of Communities of Resistant People [CPR].

According to the leader, that commission has no basis to make such accusations against the Armed Forces because some of the investigators have been in the country for only two or three days and already think they are experts on the national situation.

Espina said these gentlemen are going around showing some bombs they claim to have found in some areas they visited, claiming the Army used them against civilians, even though they have no evidence to make such claims.

These persons have no evidence to substantiate their claims against our Armed Forces, which have borne the brunt so that Guatemala may live today in peace and democracy, he said.

Organizations Will Not Stop Fight Against Rebels

The acting president said that some organizations, like the Multipartite Commission, will not stop the government and the Army from continuing to fight "those subversive bandits, because our mission is to defend national sovereignty."

"We have to fight those who want to destabilize the country and no commissions, acronyms, groups, or associations will drive us from that course because many people are suffering due to the internal conflict."

President Espina Salguero said that since the guerrillas are beaten both militarily and ideologically, they are taking advantage of peasant groups, which they threaten constantly. According to him, this is part of the insurgent strategy to make some sectors believe that they have the people's support.

"In the desperation caused by their defeat, the insurgents abusively and ungratefully take advantage of these poor people so that some international commissions may later say that it is we who mistreat our people. We reject this because it lacks any basis at all," Espina Salguero concluded.

Government Dismisses UN Resolution

PA0409190392 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 2 Sep 92 pp 6, 7

[Article by Carlos Garcia Urrea]

[Text] The Guatemalan Government considers that the resolution issued by the UN Subcommission on Human Rights in Geneva, Switzerland, has no political value under any point of view, Arturo Alvarado, the Presidency Public Relations secretary, has said. What it does have, he added, is propaganda value, if the interested parties use is as such, as in the URNG [Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity] case.

Alvarado noted that it has no value for the following reasons:

1. It does not recommend the transfer of Guatemala to category 12 [as published], that is the maximum sentence for human rights violations.
2. It does not recommend the appointment of a special rapporteur, as was done previously (when Viscount Culville of Culrose was appointed).
3. It does not recommend the UN Human Rights Commission to issue a resolution before the General Assembly.
4. Another very important fact, Alvarado added, is that the sub commission disregarded the conflict. The URNG wanted the conflict to be taken into account. What is more, it wanted the wounded to be given humanitarian treatment as war casualties; in this way it would be recognized in order to obtain international representation. Nevertheless, the subcommission did not take into account the conflict.
5. The Guatemalan Government's political willingness was not questioned at any time.
6. Apart from that, the mentioned resolution was strongly questioned by Russian and U.S. [human rights] experts as it does not censure the human rights violations committed by the URNG.

Alvarado said that the subcommission's resolution was based on a June 1992 report by the Human Rights Prosecuter's Office of Guatemala. This report includes human rights violations by the URNG that were not taken into account in Geneva.

Alvarado reiterated that the resolution is a document with no political value and can only serve propaganda purposes.

Serrano Signs Accords, Concludes Visit to Taiwan

PA0509143692 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 3 Sep 92 p 6

[Text] During the last day of President Jorge Serrano's visit to the Republic of China, President Li Teng-hui expressed his support for Guatemala's total peace initiative and concern over the stand taken by one of the sides. According to an official communique datelined Taipei, although Li said this stand makes this lofty purpose difficult to attain, he expressed confidence that the talks would be resumed soon.

At the conclusion of his visit, Serrano signed substantial financial agreements destined to reinforce his social programs for 1993 in an effort to achieve firm and lasting

peace. These agreements include one for a 300-million quetzales loan and the Taiwanese private enterprise promise to make substantial investments in Guatemala.

The Taiwanese Government intends to increase imports of Guatemalan products, particularly untraditional products. At the end of a meeting with Serrano, business leaders announced larger investments on a short-time basis.

Regarding Guatemala's foreign policy, President Li Teng-hui said he is glad it "is designed to establish and reaffirm friendly and commercial ties with the international community." He underscored Guatemalan Government efforts to establish democracy and attain economic development, social stability, and a cease-fire.

Li Teng-hui said this after a joint statement was released at the end of President Serrano's visit.

Belize Soldiers Reportedly Threaten Border Towns

PA0409162292 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 2 Sep 92 p 20

[Report by Carlos Absalon Galvez]

[Text] Dolores, Peten Department—Authorities report that military patrols have begun combing the border with Belize to confirm an alleged incursion by Belizean peasants and soldiers who reportedly entered Guatemalan territory last week.

Carlos Fajardo, acting mayor of Dolores, reported the incursion to the government on 31 August. He said various incidents have occurred in the past months on the border with Belize, especially in the location known as Rio Blanco, where Belizean soldiers have entered the country to frighten the peasants and threaten them to leave.

Last week, Fajardo said, these same individuals, who have the support of British soldiers, again entered Rio Blanco and took down the Guatemalan flag and raised the Belizean flag. After destroying the crops, the soldiers also threatened to kill the peasants.

Fajardo stressed that these incidents might lead to violent actions on the border and because of this, he has issued an urgent appeal to the Guatemalan authorities to stop the abuses by the Belizean soldiers.

Meanwhile, Petan Department Deputy Guillermo Pellecer Robles said that on several occasions he has asked Foreign Minister Gonzalo Menendez Park to intervene and stop these abuses on the border.

Nevertheless, the deputy stressed, I do not know why Foreign Minister Menendez has not responded to our demands and instead has tried to justify the presence of Belizean soldiers in Guatemalan towns. It is sad, Pellecer said, that not even Peten Governor Carlos Asturias has tried to visit the border to verify the situation.

On many occasions, Pellecer said, we have walked through mountainous areas to talk with the affected people. We made on-site confirmation of the reports but the Foreign Ministry only sends officials who "go to Flores to eat paca meat and get to know Peten, but they never tour the border."

Mayor Fajardo confirmed Pellecer Robles' remarks and said that several families have left border towns because of the Belizean threats. If the Foreign Ministry does not stop these abuses, Fajardo said, bloody incidents might occur on the border with Belize at any time.

The Dolores mayor said the Belizeans also threatened to attack Guatemalan soldiers if they try to raise the Guatemalan flag in Rio Blanco. Nevertheless, Minister Menendez has said Pellecer is a liar and denied there are incidents on the border with Belize.

Government Investigates

PA0609184992 Guatemala City SIGLO VEINTIUNO in Spanish 4 Sep 92 p 5

[Text] The government has been able to confirm that at no time have Belizean security forces, alone or accompanied by British soldiers, crossed into Guatemala. This was announced in a press communique sent to SIGLO VEINTIUNO by the Guatemalan foreign minister. The Foreign Ministry adds that in the performance of its duties, and with the help of other government institutions, it has investigated exhaustively charges of the presence of illegal Belizean settlements in Guatemala, the moving of border markers, and crossing into Guatemala of Belizean and British forces.

Officials of the Foreign Ministry's International Waters and Boundaries Department have examined the situation carefully and visited the allegedly affected areas. The department reported that all charges are groundless and are based on incorrect information.

Regarding Blanco hamlet, the Foreign Ministry has said that this is a settlement of new families originally from Guatemala. It has been proved that the hamlet is located 1.5 km east of the border markers and within Belizean territory. The Foreign Ministry added that a Belizean commission visited the hamlet to inform the residents that they had settled in Belizean territory. The Guatemalan flag that had been raised by the residents of Blanco hamlet was removed and replaced with the Belizean flag. The residents were also advised that the Belizean Government would allow them to remain there until they harvested their crops. The crops were not destroyed.

Therefore, the communique concludes, charges regarding the crossing of Belizean soldiers into Guatemala have been ruled out as has been the moving of border markers by the Belizean Government.

Nicaragua

Government Announces New Police Director

PA0509175992

[Editorial Report] Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish at 1630 GMT on 5 September begins broadcasting a live relay of the announcement of the new Nicaraguan police director and deputy government minister for citizen's security from the president's office in Managua.

At 1632 GMT Government Minister Alfredo Mendieta Artola reads highlights of Decree No. 45-92, the police organic law, outlining the duties and organization of the National Police force.

At 1634 GMT Danilo Lacayo, director of public relations and official spokesman for the Presidency, says the following:

"The decree naming the new director general of the National Police reads as follows:

"Presidential Agreement [Acuerdo] 244-92

"The president of Nicaragua, in use of her constitutional powers, and in conformity with Decree No. 45-92 of this same date, agrees:

"Article 1. To appoint as director general of the National Police regiment commander Fernando Augusto Caldera, who will take office immediately after being sworn in to post on 5 September.

"Article 2. This agreement is effective as of this date. To be published in the official gazette.

"Issued in Managua at the Presidential House on 5 September 1992

"Decree naming the new deputy government minister states:

"Presidential Agreement 245-92. The president of Nicaragua, whereas:

"1. It is the will and commitment of the president to strengthen in Nicaragua the state of law, promoting respect for the law and public order.

"2. It is also an acquired commitment of the president to make professional and restructure the National Police, with the purpose that this state institution can fulfill completely its functions of supporting legality and public order.

"3. That the National Police must be a civilian organization and that in conformity with Article 144 of the Constitution, its supreme leadership corresponds to the president of the republic, who exercises it through the Government Ministry.

"Therefore, in use of its constitutional powers, it agrees to appoint as deputy government minister to attend to matters of citizen's security, Roland Antonio Aviles, with the special purpose of supporting and assisting the government minister in the organization, administration, direction, and operation of the National Police.

"This will be effective on this date. To be published in the official gazette.

"[Issued] In Managua at the presidency, on 5 September 1992

"[Signed] Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, president of Nicaragua"

At 1636 GMT Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo says President Violeta Chamorro will now sign the decree and swear in Caldera as police director and Aviles as deputy government minister.

Following the swearing-in, at 1637 GMT, President Chamorro adresses the gathering.

At 1645 GMT the announcer repeats that Caldera has been named new police director and Aviles as new deputy government minister. He summarizes Chamorro's speech and says that a news conference will be held in the Presidency's meeting hall by Presidency Minister Lacayo and the newly named officials.

The relay from the president's office ends at 1647 GMT.

Chamorro Addresses Swearing-In

PA0509195092 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1637 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Address by President Violeta Chamorro at the swearing-in ceremony of the new director general of the National Police and the new deputy government minister for citizen's security at the president's office in Managua—live]

[Text] Spanish Ambassador, Deputy Government Minister, members of the National Police, Nicaraguan brothers:

Today, 5 September, we celebrate National Police Day in Nicaragua. It is a state institution in charge of protecting citizens, ensuring public order, and protecting the state of law.

The history of the fatherland has shown us that once we gained independence from the Spanish crown our policemen were called constables. They were in charge of protecting our old cities and towns.

During militarist governments and dictatorships, the role of our police was distorted and they were used as instruments of repression in such a manner that history called them police regimes thereby discrediting the institutions that were supposed to protect our citizens. At a certain point it was an honor to belong to the police corps and we even had the honorary title of constable mayor.

The democratic Nicaragua of today, the Nicaragua that loves peace and freedom needs a police force that can protect the state of law and the security of citizens.

Since my first speech when I was sworn in as president of Nicaragua on 25 April 1990, I had the intention to create a prestigious police force in charge of protecting our democratic order, respectful of human rights, and defender of the lives and property of all Nicaraguans. I want the police force to be reorganized in my government. We want a professional, humane, and sincere police force capable of protecting citizens. I want them to be known for the gentlemanly way with which they protect public order when it comes to enforcing the law and when they are compelled to use the force of their authority. We want a police force that is not seen with fear but with trust. They should be the protectors of our citizens.

They should not bow to interests or to the guidance of any group or political party. They must be true patriots capable of defending peace, freedom, and justice so that under their protection, citizens can live with dignity as human beings. The preservation of public order contributes to the people's trust, promotes development, and benefits the population in general.

Good wishes and intentions are not enough, however. Since the day I was sworn in as president, we achieved the country's peace and we have gradually been reducing the size of the Army.

To improve the democratic process in our country and to fulfill our election promises as well as the government platform for which the majority of the Nicaraguan people voted on 25 February 1990, my government has been working with the assistance of the Spanish Government so that we may have a National Police known for its civilian, apolitical, and professional nature, rejecting old ideas of what the police used to be.

In the same manner, on 10 January 1992, in my address to the Nicaraguan people from the National Assembly, I said that as a priority task this year, my government would dedicate a large part of its work to strengthen public order, legality, and the state of law. Today, 5 September 1992, when we are celebrating another anniversary of the founding of the National Police, we are issuing the new organic law of the police, announcing the appointment of a new director general, and expressing our appreciation to three members who are retiring today, for the work they carried out in the institution and for their service to the fatherland. Also, I am appointing a deputy government minister for citizen's security. Under the responsibility of the government minister, he will dedicate virtually all his time and energy to supervising the organization, direction, administration, and operation of the National Police, and achieving its professionalization.

Dear friends, on this occasion I wish to express the appreciation of the peoples and Government of Nicaragua to the peoples and Government of Spain for its valuable cooperation and advice in drafting the law on the professionalization of the National Police, which will be highly beneficial to all citizens.

To conclude, I want to reiterate to all the men and women who comprise the National Police, my salute and recognition of all the work they have carried out for the good of the fatherland, for their arduous work each day, distinguishing themselves in and out of the country, for their dedication, courage, love of democracy, and above all, for their patriotism. Thank you very much, dear friends.

Minister Highlights Police Law

PA0509183292 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1632 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Highlights of Decree No. 45-92, the organic police law, read by Government Minister Alfredo Mendieta Artola at the Presidential Palace in Managua—live]

[Text] Decree No. 45-92. The president of the Republic of Nicaragua, whereas:

1. The National Police must be a civilian institution and according to Article 144 of the Constitution, the post of police chief must be exercised by the president of the Republic through the government minister.

2. The National Police is a public service agency, which creates a close working relationship with the community. At the same time, as a result of the constitutional principle of equality, political neutrality, impartiality, and strict adherence to the law are demanded from the National Police.

3. UN General Assembly Resolution 179-34 of 1979, in the International Ethics Code called Code of Conduct for Public Officials Responsible for Law Enforcement, establishes the basic principles of respect for the constitution and the legal order, permanent service to the community, subordination to civilian authorities, and responsibilities in exercising police duties. These principles must be observed by the members of the Nicaraguan National Police.

4. It is necessary to create a police organization based on professionalism, ethics, and efficiency criteria. Special emphasis must be placed on the permanent training of National Police members and their professional background. In addition, the necessary balance between the recognition of their professional and personal rights and the compulsory limitations they will be subjected to in fulfilling their police duties must be maintained.

Therefore, in keeping with the powers bestowed upon me by the Constitution, the president issued the aforementioned National Police Law-decree.

This law is very long and this is not the proper time to read it all. It is comprised of approximately 60 articles. One of the most important aspects of the law is that the

position of police chief has been renamed general director of the National Police.

Issued in Managua, Presidential Palace, 5 September 1992.
[Signed] Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, president of the Republic of Nicaragua.

New Police Director Comments

PA0709185892 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Statement by Fernando Caldera, director general of the National Police, following his swearing-in ceremony as the new director general of the National Police in Managua on 5 September—recorded]

[Text] I believe that in Nicaragua, the citizens respect the police. The social clashes that on occasion occur with the police and the riot brigades are natural. They occur in Japan, Korea, and the United States. There is the case of the events in Los Angeles. They occur frequently in Korea. There have also been cases in Europe, most recently in Rostock, Germany. Thus, I do not believe that recent clashes between sectors of the population and the police necessarily are indicative of disrespect for the police. Instead, they were cases of explosion that occur naturally in societies at certain times. Nicaragua is a democratic society and consequently, there are clashes with the police under certain circumstances, but these do not reflect a deterioration of police authority. Otherwise, one would have to say that everywhere, in Los Angeles, in Rostock, Japan, and Seoul, there is no respect for the police, the arm of authority.

We have to be flexible in order to understand such events.

Reactions to Dismissal of Police Chief Noted

PA0709045092 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0154 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Report by Edgard Barberena S.]

[Text] Managua, 6 September (DPA)—The dismissal of 12 top Nicaraguan police officials has sparked political reactions in the country over the past 48 hours. The reactions indicate that the changes ordered by President Violeta Chamorro have not been "digested" by several sectors in this Central American nation.

The Chamorro administration has been in power for two years and six months, and this is the first time it has dismissed top police officials appointed by the Sandinist government.

For some, the changes are "a product of U.S. pressure," and for others they are "normal actions in the process to restructure and professionalize" the corps under the Government Ministry.

The dismissal of Brigade Commander Rene Vivas Lugo, chief of the National Police, surprised many Nicaraguans. Furthermore, nobody imagined that Regiment Commander Fernando Caldera would replace Vivas as National Police chief over more than 6,000 policemen in Nicaragua. Rene Vivas Lugo, who for almost 10 years was one of the most prominent commanders, left his office at the "Plaza del Sol" installations in southeastern Managua and will continue his law studies at the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua.

Several domestic media sources had reported that Vivas Lugo's dismissal was one of the conditions imposed by U.S. groups that have "blocked" U.S. disbursements to Nicaragua. Former Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega himself asserted this when he referred to the changes in the National Police ordered by the government. Ortega, who is also the opposition Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) secretary general, declared that now that Vivas Lugo has been dismissed from the top police post, "it is President George Bush's turn to keep his word and unblock the aid," which amounts to more than $100 million. The Sandinist leader publicly expressed his support for Commander Fernando Caldera, the new National Police chief.

Ortega charged that prior to the changes in the police, attempts had been made to impose a civilian as head of the government corps, that there had even been talk of a special commission, and that attempts were made to manipulate Nicaraguan Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo in such a commission.

Cardinal Obando y Bravo also reacted quickly to the police changes, and although he did not refer directly to the new chief of police (who in government language is being called "National Director" of the Police), he said that "a tree is known by the fruits it bears in the future." He also quoted Sandinist leader Daniel Ortega when he said there would be changes in the police, "but with people who had the same Sandinist thought." [passage omitted]

DPA talked with several police officers, including one from the riot police, 24 hours before the police changes, but most of them did not care to comment. Others who asked that their names not be revealed to avoid being penalized by their superiors said they were worried about the changes. One officer pointed out that the precedent of sending 12 top police chiefs to civilian life means it is not farfetched to think they will "do the same to us," especially "those of us who have more than 10 years in the police corps," said the uniformed officer.

Political sectors of the governing coalition that maintains an open confrontation with the executive branch have also reacted to the changes, stating that "they are cosmetic."

Sectors of the population that do not belong to any political party do not seem too concerned about the dismissal of the police officers.

CPDH Meets U.S. State Department Officials

PA0609174892 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2200 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] Dr. Eduardo Rivas Gasteazoro, president of the Permanent Commission on Human Rights [CPDH], met with John Maisto, U.S. under secretary of state for Central America, who is visiting Nicaragua. The meeting was to discuss the problems of the frozen U.S. aid package. Dr. Rivas took the opportunity to brief Mr. John Maisto about crimes committed by the Sandinists against Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] members, such as in the case of peasants.

We shall hear Dr. Lino Hernandez Trigueros, CPDH executive secretary, who speaks to listeners of Radio Corporacion's "Five O'Clock Sharp" newscast on the meeting with Maisto.

[Begin Hernandez recording] On 3 September, a CPDH delegation composed of Dr. Eduardo Rivas Gasteazoro and myself met with Mr. John Maisto, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for Central America. Maisto is visiting Nicaragua to learn about the situation here and see what position the U.S. Government is going to take regarding the frozen U.S. aid. We explained to Maisto both the positive and negative aspects of human rights here. We especially emphasized that the basis for the democratization of Nicaragua's military and justice systems have still not been laid out. We told Maisto that the Sandinist party still exerts considerable control over Nicaraguan military structures, which is no secret to anyone. Now Senator Helms and the Foreign Relations Committee staff have issued a very harsh report on various aspects of the Nicaraguan situation, and we have become concerned because no changes have yet been made here. It appears that [police hierarchy] changes announced for 5 September do not fulfill the minimum requirements because most of the changes are cosmetic.

We told Mr. Maisto and his entourage that the CPDH, as a humanitarian organization for social service, favors aid for the Nicaraguan people. The only persons who can afford to miss the opportunity for this aid are those with large bank accounts, good living conditions, or who share power. This withholding of aid, however, mostly affects the peasants and the poor sectors—the unemployed. What is more serious is that this could also affect the decision of European governments as they are now reviewing their position on Nicaragua. This is very serious. Despite the fact that the money is needed here, we believe that the required changes must be made; otherwise, it is as if we were making people rich or keeping people at their jobs who really should stand trial. We are not asking that they be tried, but we do want them replaced. We hope that the changes that will take place are of substance and not just slight changes for appearance sake to receive the money, but proper changes to lay down the basis for democracy in Nicaragua.

[Reporter] Did you report on all the murders which continue?

[Hernandez] Of course. We advised them of the situation. They asked about former RN members who have been murdered, for which we had a list of cases. We told them that in addition to these RN cases we had a number of cases of National Opposition Union members who had also been murdered. What is worse, these murders have remained totally unpunished. No matter if the murders were politically motivated or if they took place for any other reason, the criminals, nonetheless, have suffered no punishment. We also told the Maisto commission that we had hundreds of cases of people who say that they have been summoned before State Security, or the police, have been jailed three times since Mrs. Chamorro took office, or were election overseers. Now they see that the same people who persecuted them in the past continue doing so now. This is why we demand this change. As a human rights organization we are not interested in replacing a minister for another. Instead, the people who make up the justice system should be people who respect the people's rights.

[Reporter] Many thanks. [end recording]

President Chamorro Rejects U.S. Pressure on Aid

PA0809012792 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2120 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Excerpt] Managua, 7 Sep (ACAN - EFE)—Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro rejected "slight pressures" by the United States in exchange for the release of economic aid and said: "I will not sell my country to maintain good relations with the United States."

The president referred to the issue when she announced that the U.S. commission that had visited Managua last week a few hours after a tidal wave washed over the Pacific Coast had advised her to form a board of "notables" in exchange for the release of $116 million in U.S. aid.

"I want to be friendly with the United States, but without any interference. I am not going to sell my country," Chamorro said, noting that the commission headed by John Maisto, U.S. under secretary of state for Central America, "came to introduce certain clauses that I do not accept, because I am president of the Republic." [passage omitted]

FSLN Issues Communique Following U.S. Meeting

PA0509213892 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 4 Sep 92 p 8

[Communique issued by the Sandinist National Liberation Front, FSLN, National Directorate in Managua on 3 September]

[Text] This morning, 30 September, [date as published] a meeting was held between Mr. John Maisto, U.S. under secretary of state for Central American Affairs, and Commander Henry Ruiz, member of the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] National Directorate.

During this meeting Mr. Maisto explained the U.S. Government concerns regarding the property problem, the police, and the death of Nicaraguan Resistance members, as well as the repercussions of the Helms' report.

The FSLN stated the following:

1. The FSLN reaffirms its political commitment to the search for solutions to conflicts through dialogue and negotiation.

2. The FSLN has assimilated the basic realities of the American continent and wants constructive relations with all states.

3. The FSLN is aware of the deep economic crisis in Nicaragua and of the fact that international economic circumstances are adverse.

4. When speaking about a national plan, one must also bear in mind that Sandinism is a national reality.

5. The FSLN is aware of the irregular and irresponsible attitude of the National Assembly president, who violated all National Assembly operation norms on 2 September.

6. The FSLN delivered a letter written by Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, FSLN secretary general to President George Bush, which included a list of FSLN active members killed during the two and a half years of President Violeta Chamorro's government.

[Issued] Managua, 3 September 1992
[Signed] FSLN National Directorate

Daniel Ortega on Conditions for U.S. Aid

PA0509201592 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] Daniel Ortega, secretary general of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], revealed on 4 September that U.S. State Department envoy John Maisto came with an imposition for President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro: No Sandinist should be allowed to hold a high-ranking position in the Army and police, and that the Supreme Court of Justice should be reorganized, simply because she said the FSLN hopes the government will not succumb to the pressure exerted by the United States, which disrespects Nicaragua's sovereignty.

The former president said whatever decision is adopted by the Chamorro administration within the next few hours as a result of the U.S. pressure will be decisive for the upcoming talks between the FSLN and the government on the country's economic and social situation.

[Begin recording] [Ortega] We demand respect for all the Nicaraguans' right to hold a public post, either a high-ranking post or a lower-level post, regardless of their ideology and political beliefs.

[Reporter] Would you call this persecution?

[Ortega] Of course. It is political persecution; it is a violation of the Nicaraguan rights. I told Minister [Antonio] Lacayo and, above all, the president to maintain a firm, dignified position and not succumb to the U.S. position. In any case, the United States already has adopted a decision about the money and the decision to send $50 million has already been adopted. The actual disbursement of the $50 million will depend on the U.S domestic and election situation. That is not our decision. The government could succumb to the pressure—it is important to state this—but no one can guarantee the money will be sent. Consequently, what is the best thing? The best thing is to tell the United States: Listen, do not interfere. Be respectful and do not cause Nicaragua any more problems. [end recording]

Ortega: Government Should Not Yield to U.S.

PA0409151492 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0300 GMT 2 Sep 92

[Report from the nonofficial "Extravision" newscast by unidentified correspondent on news conference by Daniel Ortega Saavedra, secretary general of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, FSLN, with foreign and domestic correspondents on 1 September; place not given]

[Text] Former President Daniel Ortega reported on his recent contacts with former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and with OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares to prevent the country from sinking into a political crisis, in addition to the economic and social crisis it now faces.

[Begin Ortega recording] They can play a very important role in preventing the U.S. Government from exerting more pressure and the Nicaraguan Government yielding to that pressure. [end recording]

Ortega said that the FSLN has maintained a constructive policy.

[Begin Ortega recording] We maintain a constructive policy. We have made constructive proposals to the government, we have presented economic proposals, recommended changes in the economic policy in order to control unemployment and reactivate the country's economy. We have stressed that the government cannot yield to Yankee pressure. [end recording]

He added that if the government assumes a submissive attitude toward the United States and implements measures affecting the population, Sandinists will react to those measures.

[Begin Ortega recording] If the government yields to U.S. interventionist policy and does not defend the country's sovereignty, which is its responsibility, we will have no other choice but to go against those government measures. If the government falls, another government will come. If the new government functions, it will have

the people's support, but if it does not, it will not have any support. [end recording]

D. Ortega Sends Letter to President Bush

PA0509223392 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 3 Sep 92 p 11

[Letter to U. S. President George Bush from Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Sandinist National Liberation Front, FSLN, secretary general]

[Text] Managua, 3 September 1992.
Mr. George Bush
President of the United States of North America
Washington D.C.

Dear President Bush:

On 26 February 1990, you sent me a letter praising my effort and that of Nicaraguans for the 25 February elections held that same year, as well as my "kind action conceding victory to Mrs. Chamorro." You also expressed the willingness of the United States "to work with the new Government of Nicaragua to support national reconciliation and economic reconstruction."

During the two years and six months of the administration of Mrs. Chamorro, we Sandinists have made great efforts to support the pacification and reconciliation of Nicaraguans. We have also assumed an attitude of constructive criticism before the economic stabilization and restructuring measures the government has been carrying out. The efforts to contribute to the pacification processes in El Salvador and Guatemala should also be pointed out.

We can assure you that we managed to end the war; we have made progress to achieve the political depolarization of Nicaraguan society; and we have continued to strengthen democratic institutions, such as the executive branch, the National Assembly, the judicial branch, and the electoral body. In addition, we have increased the high degree of professionalism and adherence to the Constitution of the Republic by the Sandinist People's Army and the national police.

Concerning economic adjustments, we have criticized "shock" [preceding word in English] policies, because they have generated rapid socioeconomic deterioration. According to information by UN organizations, unemployment is estimated at 56 percent and 70 percent of the population are poor. Logically, this generates further tension and instability in the country.

We have made an economic proposal to the Nicaraguan Government, which—without modifying the objectives of fighting inflation, activating production, and favoring foreign investments—contributes to the cessation and reversion of the current trends of massive unemployment and impoverishment of the population.

We cannot deny there are still outbreaks of violence and as a result of a war that lasted more than eight years and in different acts of violence, more than 211 Sandinists and approximately 60 former members of the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] have died. These acts of violence have worsened in the last few weeks, when rearmed groups of the former RN have attacked civilian targets.

Under these complex conditions, at a time when Nicaraguans are more committed to the struggle for stability, democracy, and peace, we view with concern the campaigns sponsored by U.S. congressmen against the reconciliation process. Even more serious is the interference of your government's State Department, which exerts pressure on the Nicaraguan Government to make changes in some institutions, thereby promoting a "witch hunt" against those citizens who profess Sandinist beliefs.

This can only be described as political persecution and a violation of human rights, as established by the UN Charter.

This pressure, which is aimed at conditioning the disbursement of U.S. aid to Nicaragua, adversely affects the sacred principles of self-determination, sovereignty, and national independence and it brings more tension to the already critical situation of the country.

We have tried to be as understanding and flexible as possible in the wake of the decisions adopted by the government of Mrs. Chamorro, which also decided to withdraw the compensation suit filed before the International Justice Court in The Hague in exchange for your government's disbursing all the funds being withheld now. There is a point, however, beyond which flexibility stops being a virtue and becomes subservience, and the people of Nicaragua are not ready to sell their sovereignty and national independence.

We believe, my dear Mr. Bush, that this new opportunity for the United States to develop a new kind of relationship with Nicaragua a just and respectful relationship, must not be lost. Since last century, the relations of the U.S. Administrations toward the people of Nicaragua have been filled with infamy, pain, and blood.

Examples of those relations are Somoza with his criminal guard supported by U.S. Governments, the U.S. Congressional approval of funds for the war, the placing of mines in the ports, the Iran-Contra scandal, as well as other covert operations. These policies must stop once and for all to foster a new kind of relationship between the United States and Nicaragua.

When you were vice president of that great country and I was president of this small nation, we confronted each other on many occasions. On one specific occasion, which was observed by the international community during the inauguration of President Jose Sarney in Brazil, the applause of the crowd when we shook hands is a message that, I am sure, you will not be able to ignore. Later, in October 1989, when you were President of the United States, we sat down together at the same table in Costa Rica and had a constructive conversation,

which anticipated better times in the relations between the United States and Nicaragua.

Now, when I find myself struggling with my comrades-in-arms from the plains, defending the same ideals that committed us in the battle against the Somoza dictatorship and upon rereading your letter of 26 February 1990, I become encouraged to continue working in favor of respectful relations. These relations should contribute to bring stability and economic reactivation to the entire people of Nicaragua. Only by doing so, will the policy of intervention and confrontation be overcome peacefully. Only by doing so, will the policy of shame that once more threatens the right to dignified life, fatherland, and peace for all Nicaraguans be left behind.

[Signed] Fraternally,
Daniel Ortega Saavedra

Former Police Chief on Senator Helms' Report

PA0509044392 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 3 Sep 92 pp 1, 4

[Report by Juan Jose Lacayo]

[Text] National Police Chief Rene Vivas on 2 September described the assertion in Senator Jesse Helms' report that there is a plan to exterminate former members of the Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] as a "false, slanderous, and biased" charge against the police and Army.

The police chief said that although the Helms' report states that "approximately 100" former RN members have been killed, the report issued by the CIAV [International Commission of Support and Verification] mentions only 40 who have died from various causes.

Vivas said that violence has increased dangerously in Nicaragua, and although the war has ended and efforts have been made to attain peace, the consequences of the war are still evident.

He added that since 1990 nearly 2,000 Nicaraguans have died in violent actions of every type, including murders and traffic accidents.

The police chief stated that the 60 victims of the alleged plan to which Senator Helms referred in his report are included among those 2,000 victims.

Vivas said National Police analysts reviewed the cases "one by one" and studied the cause of death of those 60 former RN members. They found that some deaths were from natural causes.

Vivas said two former RN members died from natural causes, two committed suicide, and many others were killed while committing common crimes and clashing with the police and Army.

Vivas stated that one of the alleged victims died after he was arrested and transferred to a hospital where he underwent surgery three times for ulcers.

Others have been murdered by fellow demobilized RN members.

Vivas said that according to police statistics, 830 FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] members and sympathizers, 82 police officers, and 20 Army officers have died. "It would be irresponsible on our part to say, based on those figures, that there is a plan to exterminate the police or the Army."

"Our conclusion is that we are experiencing a violent situation," Vivas added. He said that those who ignore this reality only seek to blame the police and Army—and in doing so they blame the government as well—in a campaign to prevent the arrival of U.S. aid.

Panama

Legislative Assembly Commissions Formed

PA0409154392 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 4 Sep 92 p 8C

[Text] After discussions among the parties represented at the Legislative Assembly, it was agreed on the evening of 3 September to form 20 Legislative Assembly commissions. It was learned that 10 of these commissions will be presided over by progovernment Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement (Molirena) legislators.

EL PANAMA AMERICA learned that the important Budget Commission will be headed by Chiriqui legislator Librado Montenegro, Mario Cardenas will head the Public Finance Commission, Mario Boyd Galindo will head the Commerce Commission, and Olimpo Saez will head the Foreign Relations Commission.

The Public Works Commission will be headed by Veraguas legislator Mario Forero, the Labor Commission will be headed by Chiriqui legislator Luis Benjamin Rosas, and the Education Commission will be headed by Olmenares Quijano.

Eliseo Alvarez, San Miguelito District legislator, was reelected president of the Transportation Commission; Colon legislator Alonso Fernandez Guardia will head the Housing Commission; and Arnulfo Escalona Rios, a Herrera Province legislator for the Authentic Liberal Party, will head the Credentials and Internal Justice Commission.

The new Drug Affairs Commission will be headed by Leo Gonzalez, and Herman Gnaeggi will head the Environment Commission.

Gerardo Gonzalez, president of the Democratic Revolutionary Party (PRD) and legislator for Electoral District 8-10, will head the Agriculture Commission.

As of the evening of 3 September, no agreement had been reached to form the Commissions of Health, Children, and Family; Human Rights; Government and Justice, Revision and Correction of Style; and Canal Affairs.

The Christian Democratic Party (PDC) could head two Legislative Assembly commissions. That political party, the largest in the Assembly, presided over most commissions in the legislature that ended on 31 August.

Endara on Legislative Assembly, Other Issues

PA0609221392 Panama City Radio Soberana Civilista in Spanish 0200 GMT 3 Sep 92

[News conference by President Guillermo Endara and Presidency Minister Julio Harris with local reporters and unidentified moderator at the Presidential Palace in Panama City—live]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Moderator] Ricardo Samaniego from Televisora Nacional.

[Samaniego] Mr. President, there has been much criticism of the Legislative Assembly matter. The Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD], the party against which the Arnulfista Party struggled in the elections to displace it from power, created a confrontational situation over the past two years. It appears, however, that the Arnulfista Party will share power with the PRD during the forthcoming legislative period, because it has been reported that the PRD will head three legislative work commissions. What do you think of this?

[Endara] First, I must reject any insinuation that there is some kind of arrangement or pact between the Arnulfistas and the PRD. I assure you that the executive branch has entered no pact with the PRD. I have spoken with legislative leaders of the government party, and they flatly rejected having entered into any kind of agreement with that party. They did say, however, that all the parties represented at the Legislative Assembly should participate in the legislative task and in the commissions, not only as members but as leaders. I do not appoint commissions, but I think it is appropriate for all parties to be represented in the various boards of directors of the legislative commissions. I think it is appropriate for the PRD and the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] to be represented. [passage omitted]

[Samaniego] Mr. President, regarding the three bills you have presented as priorities, it should be difficult to get the interoceanic canal bill and the voluntary retirement bill passed considering reports that neither the PRD nor the PDC supports them.

[Endara] I believe the bill on the interoceanic areas, previously known as the recovered areas, is very important for all parties because it is a matter of national interest. The bill to be presented by the executive branch to the legislative branch was drafted by a commission in which all the parties currently represented in the Legislative Assembly were represented. [passage omitted] All the parties participated in drafting the document, and all of them agreed that the document drafted by the commission should be presented to the Legislative Assembly, which should extensively discuss it with the various national sectors. [passage omitted]

[Moderator] Alexander Calderon of Radio Mia.

[Calderon] Mr. President, regarding the Nicaragua case, is your government in favor of the release of $100 million to the victims of the Nicaraguan tidal wave as President Violeta Chamorro has requested?

[Endara] As a result of the latest meeting of Central American chiefs of state in Nicaragua, we sent a letter to U.S. President Bush and other U.S. leaders asking them to release aid to Nicaragua because the Nicaraguan people need it. Now, as a result of this natural disaster, there are even more reasons to ask for its release.

[Moderator] Fabio Agrana from the ACAN-EFE news agency.

[Agrana] Colombian authorities are looking for a banker whose last name is Lopez Michelsen. Reportedly they believe this banker is in Panama and they will ask for his extradition. Do you know about this?

[Endara] I know what the media has reported about Colombia's plan to request the extradition of banker Lopez Michelsen, who has been accused of crimes, or has been found guilty of crimes, I do not know. I do not know if he is in Panama at this time. If he is, we would process the extradition request according to the law.

[Moderator] Maide Sacrisol from Omega Estereo.

[Sacrisol] Good evening, Mr. President. My first question is: Why are 73 percent of the country's prison inmates still awaiting trial—a violation of due processes—while Law 3 on protective measures has benefited many persons connected with the military regime. My second question is: There have been reports of drug trafficking in the Colon Free Zone. What is the government going to do to stop drug trafficking in that area?

[Endara] I think you are asking that first question to the wrong branch of the government. That is a question for the judicial branch. [passage omitted]

Regarding drug trafficking in the Colon Free Zone, you must have noticed the thousands of tons we have seized. We will maintain that policy of keeping the Free Zone free of drug trafficking. We will continue struggling daily because it is a struggle that must be waged daily in the Free Zone and elsewhere in the country. This is my firm, reiterated, and demonstrated policy. Never in Panama's history have there been as many drug seizures as during my administration. [passage omitted]

Argentina

Nuclear Energy Pact With U.S. Marks 'New Stage'

PY0509175092 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2136 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Sep (NA)—Argentina and the United States signed an agreement on the peaceful use of nuclear energy, which will allow Argentina to participate in a study on the cycle of fuels to meet civilian nuclear needs, among other things.

The agreement was signed this afternoon during a ceremony attended by Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella, U.S. Ambassador Terence Todman, National Commission for Atomic Energy [CNEA] personnel, and representatives of the Argentine [word indistinct].

According to the Foreign Ministry, the agreement "marks the initiation of a new stage in the bilateral cooperation on nuclear issues and sophisticated technology. This is the result of Argentina's new policy on sensitive technologies and nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction. [no closing quotation mark as received]

This framework agreement includes the areas of development, design, construction, financing, maintenance, and use of nuclear reactors.

It also provides that the United States will transfer to Argentina knowledge on the use of nuclear materials for investigation into physics, biology, medicine, agriculture, and industry.

Analyzing the decisions that resulted in the signing of this agreement in a political context, Di Tella said: "This is part of Argentina's explicit position in support of the nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction, including missiles, nuclear, chemical, and bacteriological weapons."

Addressing the ceremony, Di Tella said: "National security deteriorates and cannot be strengthened with such weapons."

This agreement, which was reached a few days after Argentina ratified the Tlatelolco Treaty, follows the nuclear accord signed with Brazil in November 1990, in which the two countries committed themselves to use nuclear energy exclusively for peaceful purposes.

The Argentine Government expects that this agreement reached with Washington will become an instrument of major significance that will allow the signing of similar treaties with Canada, France, Italy, and Japan.

Ambassador Todman, who spoke during the ceremony in the San Martin Palace, said that the agreement was possible "thanks to the important changes introduced by the administration of President Carlos Menem in the nuclear field and in other areas."

Ambassador Todman emphasized the fact that Argentina recently ratified the Tlatelolco Treaty and that it will carry out [words indistinct] high-level international safeguards and the development of controls over the export of sensitive technology.

Di Tella said that the agreement is the result of the change "in the basic vision Argentina has about its interests."

He added: "I believe this agreement allows the type of cooperation that was structurally prohibited because they adhered to the policy of noncooperation and the belief that technology could be developed alone in the world."

Local diplomats hope that the agreement will serve to consolidate the U.S. confidence. Some of the measures already implemented by Argentina to reach that objective were the dismantling of the Condor-2 missile, the creation of the Argentine-Brazilian agency for the accounting and control of nuclear materials, the suspension of the sale of nuclear material to Iran by the state-owned Invap [Applies Research Institute] enterprise, and the signing of a decree that establishes controls over the export of sensitive technology.

Condor-2 Project 'Halted'

PY0709025092 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1916 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 6 Sep (TELAM)—Defense Minister Antonio Erman Gonzalez today assured that the construction of the Condor-2 missile has been halted. He also denied that the U.S. Government is exerting pressure "to abandon the project and destroy project facilities."

The minister said that "everything that cannot be used in some of the projects in which we are engaged will be destroyed," adding that "the motors eventually will be used for a peaceful objective."

In an interview published by NOTICIAS magazine, Gonzalez said: "Nothing has been destroyed." He said, however, that even though the project has been halted, "the facilities, the machines, and the accumulated experience should be channeled toward peaceful aerospace projects." [passage omitted]

Justice Minister Confirms Resignation

PY0809024092 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0218 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 7 Sep (NA)—Justice Minister Leon Arslanian tonight confirmed that he is leaving his post, when he stressed that the time has come to "take a step to the side" after "having completed a stage" in the government.

In a brief encounter with the press just before the ceremony in which the new system of oral trials for the penal system was officially implemented, Arslanian

flatly denied that President Carlos Menem is mad with him after disagreements over the naming of members for the future Annulments Court [Tribunal de Casacion]. [passage omitted]

Deputy 'Strongly' Condemns U.S. Wheat Subsidies

PY0609225092 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0113 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Text] Buenos Aires, 5 Sep (NA)—UCeDe [Democratic Center Union] Deputy Federico Zamora strongly condemned the U.S. Government's position of making subsidized wheat exports to Brazil and other traditional Argentine customers." [no opening quotation marks as received] He urged "revising some issues under study involving U.S. interests, such as the patents law."

In a draft communique, Zamora pointed out that this represents "a violation of the agreement between the Mercosur [Common Market of the South] and the United States establishing that the countries involved must avoid subsidies to third markets."

The UCeDe legislator stressed: "This also represents an extremely serious inconsistency with the formal and informal agreements on which the bilateral relationship between our country and the United Sates is based. This misconduct must make us reassess the handling of some issues under study involving U.S. interests."

The legislator added: "In keeping with this new negative development in Argentine-U.S. relations, the PEN [national executive branch] project and its consequences with respect to the medicines issue must be revised" to show the United States that Argentines "no longer want to be stooges [hijos de la pavota]."

Brazil

Collor Promises 'Prestige' for Supporters

PY0709220692 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 4 Sep 92 p 3

[Text] Brasilia—President Fernando Collor promised 98 deputies who had dinner with him on 2 September "prestige with the government" once the episode of an impeachment vote in the Chamber of Deputies is over. The luncheon was organized by Deputy Ezio Ferreira (PFL-AM) [Liberal Front Party-Amazonas], who did not warn the legislators that President Collor would be present. The occasion was presented by Planalto Palace as a demonstration of Collor's prestige in Congress. Social Action Minister Ricardo Fiuza recorded 98 legislators in attendance. Collor arrived at the meeting at 2250 and left at 0100 yesterday morning. During his 20-minute speech, which was interrupted by applause several times, Collor guaranteed his solidarity with the deputies who support him.

"When this episode is over there will be prestige for those who are on our side," Collor promised after the dinner that also was attended by Bank of Brazil President Lafaiete Torres, National Savings Bank President Alvaro Mendonca, and Senators Odacir Soares (PFL-RO) [Liberal Front Party-Roraima] and Ney Maranhao (PRN-PE) [National Reconstruction Party-Pernambuco].

Presidential spokesman Etevaldo Dias interpreted the promise of prestige made by the president as "participating in government plans and projects." Dias said that in order to reward legislators' efforts, Collor "always will show solidarity with them."

"It is not just opportunities," the spokesman said and then quickly corrected himself:

"It is not opportunities. It is prestige in the sense of having access and participation in government plans and projects. It will be a stage of more interaction between government programs and Congress."

In an optimistic tone, Collor said he was confident the proposal for impeachment will not succeed. He also highly praised Deputy Roberto Jefferson (PTB-RJ) [Brazilian Labor Party-Rio de Janeiro] and Rondonia PFL Senator Odacir Soares for their effort in the Congressional Investigating Committee hearing the PC [Paulo Cesar] Farias case. Collor was very kind yesterday with politicians, as has happened very few times during his term. He smiled at everyone, had close contact with deputies, and promised prestige to those supporting him.

Collor said: Those opposition members in Congress are the ones who seek to take over the government through a request for impeachment. I count on my friends to defeat them one by one for the sake of Brazil.

He stated that the vote for impeachment is a dispute over power.

He said: Brazilian history shows that power can be obtained in two manners—through the vote or arms. Now they want to invent a third one: through shouting.

Collor reasserted that he will not resign and added that from now on he will be the political coordinator for his government. He praised the ministers who continue to support him, like Fiuza, whom he called "great." He made a veiled criticism of those who are not supporting the government.

He said: Brazilian history always has revealed that there is no room for the indolents, hesitants, and cowards. There is room only for the courageous.

Praising Ney Maranhao, who already has left his post, Collor said that he is "the senator with leather sandals." Maranhao does not wear shoes but walks Congress' aisles in trousers and leather sandals. Collor confirmed to congressmen that he is personally taking care of the political coordination to prevent the request for impeachment.

He said: I decided to help my ministers with that coordination late last week.

Collor ended his speech by urging the congressmen supporting the government to remain united.

I ask you to remain united, strong, courageous, and with heads held high.

Collor Addresses Letter to O GLOBO President

PY0709213092 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 6 Sep 92 p 3

[Quotation marks as published]

[Text] "Dr. Roberto [Marinho]. A few days ago when I had the satisfaction of receiving you at Planalto Palace, you, my friend, with your customary politeness, did not bring up any political issue, which I interpreted as a demonstration that the cordial relations between you and me are beyond any occasional disagreement of a different nature. You also gave me a copy of your book "Liberal Trajectory" [Trajetoria Liberal], in which you left a note expressing hope that on reading it I would find a pause in the "storm" I am facing, in addition to your opinion on music and the cultivation of a selected species of flowers.

Yesterday, after concluding my activities, I opened the book and found on page 83 a 1988 article concerning the CPI [Congressional Investigating Committee] on corruption within the Sarney government, in which I underlined the following passages:

"Unfortunately (...) the level of boasting is increasing, and this has characterized the quest for scandal and not of justice (...). In light of this absurd and unreasonable perversion of the objectives of the CPI, which intends to form a climate for the destabilization of the constitutional order, forcing the Senate board and the president to adopt measures in defense of the dignity of the branches of government and the respect that must prevail between them."

Page 102, still on the same subject, says: "The conclusion is that, to maintain a minimum of consistency, the unusual request for impeachment [preceding word in English] of the president must be preceded by a proposal for the resignation of the congressmen involved."

"President Jose Sarney, although afflicted, must not let himself be dragged down by pessimistic attitudes."

On page 197, I learned about your courageous attitude on the occasion of the opening of the CPI, which was absurdly established to investigate TV Globo's negotiations with the TIME-LIFE group.

I remember that your persistence in the struggle ended up confirming your absolute correctness and that your accusers are the ones involved in criminal actions. Reading the book strengthened my conviction that no argument can lead a public man, strong in his dignity, to a deal with pharisaism, hypocrisy, and false moralism. One of the most costly campaigns has been started at this time in the country with the intent of tarnishing my image. This campaign is more costly than any electoral campaign and is intended to create emotional conditions that can cause my immediate withdrawal from the Presidency of the Republic, summarily, in order to prevent the legal procedures established by the Constitution for this purpose from being fulfilled.

This campaign is headed by figures who walked unpunished through public life, leaving a notorious image of dishonesty. Among them there are some businessmen who made their wealth based on corruption, which they just had confessed before the CPI. They will not achieve their objectives. I am not frightened by their threats. And neither can I fear those who, for the first time in our country's history, established inquests to investigate any denunciation, even those involving some of my assistants. All laws created to investigate white collar crimes were my own initiative.

My dear Dr. Roberto, I hope you, my friend, will have the generosity to understand that my current state of mind has led me to extend this letter beyond my objective of expressing my recognition for your personal attitude toward me. A cordial embrace from,

Fernando Collor de Mello

'Text' of Petition for Impeachment Released

PY0409230092 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 2 Sep 92 City Section p 5

["Full text" of the petition for the impeachment of President Fernando Collor, submitted by Barbosa Lima Sobrinho, president of the Brazilian Press Association, ABI, and Marcello Lavenere Machado, president of the Brazilian Attorneys Association, OAB, to the Chamber of Deputies in Brasilia on 1 September—words in italics published in Latin; punctuation as received]

[Text] "Your Excellency, Mr. President of the Chamber of Deputies.

Barbosa Lima Sobrinho, Brazilian citizen, married, journalist, living at 217 Assuncao Street, Botafogo, Rio de Janeiro, and Marcello Lavenere Machado, Brazilian citizen, married, lawyer, living in SAS [expansion unknown], block 05, lot 02, building N, first floor, Brasilia, both citizens fully enjoying their political rights and having their electoral registries No. 19030303-96 and 8354917-73 of the 84th and 1st Electoral Zones of the States of Rio de Janeiro and Alagoas respectively, hereby based on Articles 1, II, [as published], and 5, XX-XIV, "a" of the Federal Constitution, and especially Articles 14, and following, of Law 1079 of 10 April 1950, and based on the evidence gathered by the Joint Congressional Investigating Committee [Comissao Parlamentar Mista de Inquerito] [CPI] come to file against Fernando Affonso Collor de Mello, president of the Republic, the following:

Charges

For malfeasance in accordance to Articles 85, IV, and V of the Federal Constitution, and Articles 8 section 7, and 9 section 7 of Law 1079 of 10 April 1950, as described by the following for the purpose of removing him from office and disqualifying him temporarily for holding a public post.

Preamble

"The entire crisis which Brazil is experiencing, therefore, and which we feel is quickly accelerating—the political crisis, the economic crisis, the financial crisis—are nothing but the symptoms, the partial outward expressions, the revealing manifestations of a more profound situation, a supreme crisis: a moral crisis." (Rui Barbosa, "Ruins of a Government")

The impeachment is not a common sentence against common criminals. It is the extreme sanction against abuse and the perversion of political power. For this reason, given the eminent position of the person accused, and given the exceptional seriousness of the crimes he is accused of, the roots of the impeachment process can be found in the great requirements of political ethics, in the light of which the norms of positive law must be interpreted.

In democratic governmental systems the great judges of the rulers are the people themselves, and the people's ethical conscience. The elected ruler who uses power in his own interest, and in that of his friends and relatives, not only commits actions of personal corruption or of embezzlement or of malfeasance in office; more than that, he scorns and disparages the popular sovereignty.

It is for this reason that the best Western political traditions attribute power of jurisdiction to try those who are accused of malfeasance precisely to the institution representing the people. The peoples' representation in the impeachment processes is to interpret and express the dominant ethical principles in the face of acts of abuse or treason of the national trust.

The maximum prevarication that may be committed by the people's representative in malfeasance trials consists in behaving under the pressure of spurious influences to satisfy personal or party interests.

In all, the president of the Federative Republic of Brazil will be judged before the Brazilian people, represented by their deputies and senators, based on the long and solid principles of political morality.

The word is a concept we inherited from the Romans. *Decus* [honor], shares the same root of the verb *decere* which has two meanings: a neutral meaning of convenient and a moral meaning of decency.

The Roman word decorum has always expressed an idea of order and moderation or measure. "By bringing certain order and measure into the facts of life," Cicero states, "we are preserving honesty and decorum." (De Officiis, I, 17) Such order and measure in one's personal life, he continues, are expressed through modesty (*verecundia*), moderation, humility, control of one's passions, and the pondering of all things. Decorum cannot be separated from honesty, "because what is decent and honest is *vice versa*" (idem I 93).

Regarding specifically the ruler or head of political power (*magistratus*) [magistrate], Cicero warns that it is his own prerogative "to understand that he generates the state and that it is therefore his duty to defend the dignity and decorum of his post, to respect the laws, to respect the rights, remembering that all this was entrusted to him with the people's trust (*ea fide suae comissa*)." (idem I, 124)

Therefore, every public position entails its own dignity, which the Romans justly called honor; and this dignity must be respected and defended even from their own holders.

The lack of honesty and decorum in the exercise of a public post offends not only the community, but its perverse effects go far beyond. The lack of honesty and decorum demoralizes the image of the state in the eyes of the people. When the state loses its respectability, its moral distinction, the entire functioning of the political apparatus collapses.

It is for no other reason that crimes against the honor of the president of the Republic or against any other public official exercising his post are more strictly punished (Penal Code Article 141). What is being protected is not only the personal honor of the political agent or public servant: It is the dignity of the post he holds.

In our constitutional law, the definition of typical cases of offense to the congressional decorum has not only been defined by the bylaws of the two congressional chambers. The previous constitution specified the theories of "abuse of prerogatives entrusted to the congressman or the perception, in the exercise of power, of unlawful or immoral advantages (Article 35, First paragraph). The current Constitution has kept them substantially: "Abuse of prerogatives entrusted to a member of the National Congress, or the perception of unlawful advantages, is incompatible with congressional decorum, in addition to the cases defined in the bylaws, the abuse of prerogatives entrusted to a member of the National Congress, or the perception of unlawful advantages" (Article 55, first paragraph).

That constitutional specification is valid, *mutatis mutandis* [with the necessary changes being made], to understand the meaning of unworthy behavior on the part of the president of the Republic. The abuse of powers inherent to the post, as well as the perception of advantages or immoral benefits, are considered acts of dishonesty, for representing an absolute lack of uprightness.

I—Undue Benefits

In his role as chief of state and chief of government, the president of the Republic is maintained by the nation

through public resources. He is not allowed to exercise any other professional activity after his installation because of the honor and decorum of his position. Outside that, it is proper that the money or goods he receives from third parties while exercising his mandate have a clearly defined purpose, in order to avoid accusations of improperly receiving immoral or illegal advantages.

It has thus been verified that from 15 March 1990 the president of the Republic personally, as well as some of his relatives—his current wife, his former wife, and his mother—received large amounts of money, besides other goods, from a third party without any indication of the legal origin of such benefits.

These transferences of money and goods were made repeatedly, either through deposits in the bank account of the president's private secretary or of his relatives, or through direct payments to companies that sold decorations for the president's private residence or that worked in his home or in any of his other properties or housing, in addition to that which sold a Fiat Elba vehicle (the relation of these transferences and payments are included in the CPI's report).

As if this dishonorable conduct were not enough, all those resources which were added to the patrimony of the president of the Republic and his close relatives came from a criminal economic organization involved in prestige exploitation and influence peddling, controlled by Paulo Cesar Cavalcanti Farias.

That organization, comprised of Claudio Francisco Vieira, Ana Maria Acioli Gomes de Mello, Rosinete de Carvalho Melanias, Jorge Walderio Tenorio Bandeira de Mello, Severino Nunes Oliveira, George Ricardo Melanias, Geovani Carlos Fernandes de Mello, Marta Vasconcelos Soares, and other less important people, was acting as intermediate in obscure private interests for the administration.

The CPI report's final conclusion states that Ana Acioli, secretary of the president of the Republic and a person who enjoys the president's total confidence, administered the accounts earmarked for the payment of the president's private expenses, and that 'no cent' was spent without the president's authorization.

Such accounts were supplied by money coming from the EPC [Construction and Investment Enterprise] and Brasil-Jet companies, both owned by Paulo Cesar Farias.

This is how, since mid 1990, large deposits were made in the account of the private secretary of the president, under fictitious names and with the use of false CPF [Individual Taxpayers Register] numbers. The deposits included large sums of money from the Sao Paulo business area, especially checks from the Rural Bank, that had "ghost" depositors under the names of Flavio Mauricio Ramos, Manuel Dantas de Araujo, Jurandir Castro Menezes, Jose Carlos Bonfim, Carlos Alberto de Nobrega, and Rosimar Almeida (compare the checks in the CPI report).

It has been proven that the so-called "ghosts" were responsible for deposits in the accounts of the first lady, her secretary Maria Isabel Texeira, the mother of the accused, his former wife, the butler in the house of the accused, Brasil Gardens and its owner Roberto Nehring, in addition to two close aides of the president, Claudio Vieira and Claudio Humberto (see the CPI report).

It has also been proven that the purchase of the Fiat Elba of the president of the Republic was paid for with an administrative check under the "ghost" Jose Carlos Bonfim, and that the remodeling of his apartment in Maceio was paid for with resources of the EPC of Paulo Cesar Farias (see the CPI report).

II—Influence Peddling

As the CPI report explains, the evidence that Paulo Cesar Farias took advantage of the prestige of being a friend of the president of the Republic is shown by the payments made by many large companies to the EPC, which belongs to Farias, for services that were impossible to be rendered due to the complete lack of technical qualifications.

This influence peddling, of which the president was not and could not be unaware, has been remarkable in the cases involving Votorantim, Tratex, and VASP [Sao Paulo Airline].

The fake deal with Tratex, which involved a $200,000 (two hundred thousand dollars) contract for rendering verbal services, was justified by the Tratex director to the CPI on the grounds that he was interested in having information on the economic plans, which changed every week. It should be noted that high-ranking Finance Ministry officials also benefited from deposits from "ghost" account owners.

The case involving VASP and Petrobras [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation] is remarkable. It would be enough to quote the CPI report on the pressure that businessman Paulo Cesar Farias exerted on the president of Petrobras, Luiz Otavio da Motta Veiga, to make Petrobras contract for VASP a harmful loan of $40 million (forty million dollars), for repayment over a 10-year period, and only with exchange rate adjustments.

According to Motta Veiga's statement to the CPI, in addition to the interference by Paulo Cesar Farias—who told him that his power came directly from the president—Marcos Antonio de Salvo Coimbra, the president's brother-in-law and presidential secretary general, asked him for the same loan, which Petrobras technical organs had deemed hurtful.

After being informed that the loan would not be approved by the Petrobras directorate, Coimbra told Motta Veiga that the government wanted the loan granted. The president dismissed Motta Veiga because he halted this hurtful deal that was imposed on Petrobras.

It should be noted that the CPI found out that EPC, which is owned by Paulo Cesar Farias, deposited a check for 250 million cruzeiros (two hundred and fifty million cruzeiros) in the account of Viplan, a company owned by Wagner Canhedo. This amount corresponds to 80 percent of the first installment of the price for the VASP shares.

III—The Lie

After the publication by ISTOE magazine on 28 June 1992 of an interview with driver Francisco Eriberto Franca—a simple man of exemplary character—the president addressed the nation over a television network on 30 June. He untruthfully said that his personal expenses were paid for with his own funds, which were managed by his private secretary Claudio Vieira, and which were transferred to secretary Ana Acioli, who for this purpose used a specific account. To prove his allegation he showed a typed letter with the signature of Ana Acioli, a statement signed by Claudio Vieira, and a note from Bancesa [Bancesa Commercial Bank, Inc.], in an attempt to deny that Paulo Cesar Farias, Brasil-Jet, and EPC made deposits in the account of his secretary.

The investigation of the checks and other documents proved that, contrary to what the accused told the nation, none of the deposits examined were made by Claudio Francisco Vieira, but by the fictitious names mentioned above.

The "Uruguay Operation" was mounted to establish a link between the "ghosts" and Claudio Vieira, to make legislators believe that such deposits originated indirectly in Vieira. The operation was an obvious attempt to trample on the respectability of the CPI report, which stressed the very bad record of those involved in the secret business deal which was supposedly closed in the neighboring country.

The essential contradiction of the simulated link between the loan obtained in Uruguay and Ana Acioli's account derives from the testimony of "dollar dealer" Najum Turner, who said that he administered the accounts of the "ghosts" and that these "ghosts" made generous deposits in the accounts of the president's private secretary and family members.

The CPI report showed with documents and experts' opinions that the "ghosts" were a creation of Paulo Cesar Farias' scheme, that Farias and his assistants administered the accounts, and that his assistants signed in the name of the ficticious account owners.

Such "ghosts" had their cadastral records filled out by Paulo Cesar Farias's secretary Rosinete Melanias—Farias himself appeared in those records as their agent—and their address was the same as that of EPC.

This evidence destroyed the attempt to establish a link between the alleged loan contracted in Uruguay and Ana Acioli's account used to pay the president's personal expenses. The CPI found nothing linking Acioli's account and Najum Turner, or linking the latter with the "ghosts."

The president's lie on national television network was therefore powerfully clear.

IV—Lack of Decorum and Dignity To Exercise the Presidency

The personal charges brought against the president are truly shocking and frightening. The nation has not yet been able to recover from the amazement and indignation provoked by the testimony of the president's brother, Pedro Collor de Mello, which was registered in the CPI report.

"Paulo Cesar Farias reportedly said that he had an informal association with the president of the Republic, to whom he transferred 70 percent of the profits. This is a revealing detail—first, because if such an association exists, an investigation of Paulo Cesar Farias' activities would imply investigating the activities of his partner—for which this CPI does not have the authority—and second, because any subsequent investigations, even if it includes the president, will find evidence of that link and will verify that in fact Paulo Cesar Farias financed—through phantom accounts—the personal expenses of the president of the Republic."

We have never heard of a governor charged with such demoralizing activities.

All these facts, investigated not only by Congress but also by the Federal Police, characterize a behavior that is incompatible with the honor, dignity, and decorum required from the president of the Republic.

Lack of decorum, disorderly behavior and lack of moderation in a person's personal life, establishing links with dishonest people and receiving undue advantages, are part of the definition of treason and abuse of public trust mentioned by Cicero when referring to public figures, and reiterated by Hamilton, one of the founding fathers of the U.S. federation, as justification for the impeachment of a president ("The Federalist," Number 65).

As a result of all this, the president of the Republic—as is clearly perceived and with more intensity each day—has in a notorious manner lost the authority to direct the Armed Forces Supreme Command (Federal Constitution, Article 142), and all moral authority to govern the nation or to represent it abroad. The people's disrespect of the president jeopardizes the republican institutions. His separation from the presidency is therefore inevitable and urgent as a means for a governmental political and administrative cleansing, strictly within constitutional boundaries.

The people's complaints, the demonstrations staged by youths, and the rallies staged at public squares by annoyed citizens show that Fernando Collor de Mello lacks the dignity to hold the post of president of the Republic.

The president has lost the dignity to govern the nation and the respect whereby he may impose himself upon public servants and the population. He lacks the honor and the esteem which are essential attributes in representing the nation. In sum, he lacks the decency that must guide the public and private life of a ruler.

V. Serious Omission

In face of the huge sums of money illegally received through the "ghost" checking account holders and of the notorious trafficking in influence by Paulo Cesar Farias, and despite being repeatedly alerted, as noted in the CPI report, the president of the Republic failed to comply with his basic duty of observing public morality, which is a governor's essential attribute according to the Federal Constitution.

Article 5 of Law 8027/90, which was sanctioned by the president himself, states that public servants involved in any of the following administrative irregularities can be dismissed:

"I—allowing third persons to take advantage of information, prestige, or influence at the expense of a public post in obtaining direct or indirect personal profit detrimental to the dignity of the public administration.

VIII—accepting or promising to accept tips or any type of present, as well as personal loans or any kind of advantage, through the powers bestowed upon their office."

Administrative morality and the exercising of public duties do not allow public servants to receive tips, commissions, presents, or any kind of advantages through the powers bestowed upon their office. (Law 8112/90, Article 117, XII).

The public servant can be dismissed if he takes advantage of his post to obtain profits for himself or for third persons detrimental to a public institution. This fact is incompatible with the dignity and the honor that should characterize the exercising of public duty. (Law 8112, Article 117, IX)

If this is the conduct imposed upon a public servant, the president of the Republic, who is empowered to head the federal administration in keeping with Article 84 of the Constitution, should act with even more severe discipline. Public administration must be ruled by moral and legal principles in compliance with Article 37, paragraph 4 of the Constitution. Consequently the president of the Republic, in a serious omission, has tacitly or explicitly violated the federal laws of public order, considering that the deposits to his account or of benefit to his relatives through "ghost" checking account holders are evidence of tax evasion and forgery of documents. They were a result of the exploitation of prestige and disrespect for the articles of Laws 8112/90 and 8027/90, which regulate administrative honesty in excercising public duties. The provisions regulating the public law's domain are considered to be of public order, especially the laws involving the interests of the state and the protection of the administration.

The concept of Carlos Maximiliano, in his famous book "Hermeneutics and Law Enforcement" (Rio de Janeiro, Judiciary, 9th edition, p 216), is perfect:

"The provisions conforming to the domain of public law are considered to be of public order; therefore, the constitutional, administrative, penal, procedural, police and security, and court organization provisions are included in this category."

And the eminent jurist goes on:

"It does not seem vain to specify that tax laws also belong to the aforementioned class."

Therefore, the president of the Republic violated the provisions of Article 8, Clause 7, of Law No. 1079/50 by tacitly or explicitly allowing, with his omission, violations of a federal law of public order, that is, offenses to penal, administrative, and tax laws.

The Petition

With the office of judges vested upon them, and convinced themselves of the historic importance of the judgment they will pronounce, the congressmen must be inspired in the lesson given by [Brazilian statesman and jurist] Rui Barbosa when he quoted the sayings of [Portuguese writer, poet, and philosopher] Father Manuel Bernardes, a great preacher of the 17th century.

"God commands that all the people who serve as judge or minister not consider the reasons of a powerful prince or the helpless poor, but just the reasons of their brethren ... This virtue was well practiced by Canute, king of the Vandals [as published], who after ordering the execution of a gang of outlaws and after one of them argued that he was a relative of the king, responded: If it is proven that he is our relative, there is reason to build a higher gallows for him."

It is also necessary not to forget the teaching of [British statesman and orator] Edmund Burke: "This is the court by which the rulers who abuse power are judged; not according to minor details or refinements of criminal theory, but according to the long and solid principles of morality."

When the legislative branch meets to judge acts of dishonesty by the chief executive, not only the chief executive's person but the entire Brazilian nation's honor and dignity is being judged.

Therefore, in keeping with the aforementioned facts, charges are hereby leveled against His Excellency Fernando Affonso Collor de Mello, president of the Republic, for violating Article 85, clauses IV and V, of the Federal Constitution, and Article 8, clause 7, and Article 9, clause 7, of Law No. 1,079 of 10 April 1950. It is hereby

requested that after receiving these charges as a point for discussion and after these charges are received by the Chamber of Deputies, they be submitted to the Senate, where they will be judged, acknowledging their origin, in order to enforce on the defendant a sentence of loss of post, with an eight-year disqualification in discharging public duties, notwithstanding the appropriate penal procedure for common penal violations as established in Article 52, single paragraph, of the Constitution.

Proposal of Evidence:

It requires the consolidation of the enclosed final report of the Joint Congressional Investigating Committee formed "to investigate facts contained in the charges leveled by Mr. Pedro Collor de Mello about the activities of Mr. Paulo Cesar Cavalcante Farias" (document No. 1), as well as the defendant's declarations of 30 June and 30 August that were broadcast over a national radio and television hookup and published by our country's entire press (documents Nos. 2 and 3); it also requires, as established in Article No. 16 of Law 1,079/50, the procurement of copies of the complete documents on the inquest conducted by the Joint Congressional Investigating Committee and all the documents gathered so far during the police inquest implemented by the Federal Police on the same charges and the respective report, which has already been concluded. To further prove the allegations, the accusers present the following list of witnesses:

1. Francisco Eriberto Freire de Franca;
2. Sandra Fernandes de Oliveira;
3. Luiz Octavio da Motta Veiga;
4. Paulo Cesar Cavalcante Farias;
5. Najum Turner; and
6. Claudio Francisco Vieira, whose descriptions and addresses are included in the Joint Congressional Investigating Committee's documents.

Brasilia, 1 September 1992."

Pinheiro To Decide Secret or Public Vote

PY0809020092 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] Chamber of Deputies President Ibsen Pinheiro will decide tomorrow whether the vote on the request for President Collor's impeachment will be public or secret. The commission in charge of making a decision on the impeachment request will be installed tomorrow.

Who will be the commission members? Pinheiro will reply to this question tomorrow at noon. Meanwhile, the Chamber of Deputies plenum elected the commission during this afternoon's session. This is the third commission since the impeachment request was submitted and the first that will examine the matter. In this session, Pinheiro presented the agenda, which includes the system for the process, deadlines, a public or secret vote, and two votes requiring a simple majority and two-thirds' majority or one vote needing two-thirds.

Pinheiro did not want to refer to the voting system to be adopted. He reported to the justice minister and congressmen supporting the government that a reply on the system will be released tomorrow. Considering that the vote system was debated during today's session, he will reply on the issue during another session.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Is it possible to reduce the deadlines and the number of votes?

[Pinheiro] It is possible to establish the conditions that can harmonize the indispensable legality and the speed that is required through the appropriate regulations. I have the political power to obtain this result in September. [end recording]

Pressured for Quick Decision

PY0809014892

[Editorial Report] Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese in its 5 September edition carries in section 1, page 6, a 600-word article by Gilberto Dimenstein and Eumano Silva entitled "Opposition Pressures [Chamber of Deputies President] Ibsen" Pinheiro on his slowness in deciding what procedure must be followed in the request for President Collor's impeachment. The article begins: "The opposition already has lost its enthusiasm regarding the voting session on the impeachment request," thus, it "began an offensive to pressure Ibsen to decide soon what procedure will be followed. 'A feeling of panic is beginning to settle among us,' said PSDB [Brazilian Social Democracy Party] President Tasso Jereissati."

The article continues: "The greatest source of pressure on Ibsen comes from the Senate. Several senators went yesterday to the Chamber of Deputies hall to express their displeasure with Ibsen's signals to allow Collor to defend himself in the lower house. The senators claim that Collor cannot defend himself because the process will be opened only by the Senate."

"Another source of pressure is from the political parties' presidents," the article continues. PSDB President Tasso Jereissati had suspected that PMDB, Brazilian Democratic Movement Party, President Orestes Quercia favors keeping Collor in government, a suspicion Quercia rejected, saying he had urged the Sao Paulo governor to pressure Ibsen for a speedier process.

The article states: "The opposition fears that if Collor is allowed to defend himself, he may take advantage of the opportunity to obtain more witnesses for his defense and request investigations that may extend the process." It adds: "On 3 September, Senators Jose Sarney (PMDB-Amapa), Fernando Henrique Cardoso (PSDB-Sao Paulo), Pedro Simon (PMDB-Rio Grande do Sul), and Humberto Lucena (PMDB-Paraiba) met Ibsen. They left the meeting convinced that Ibsen will allow Collor to defend himself."

Magalhaes Frees PFL Bloc To Vote Conscience

PY0509141892 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 4 Sep 92 p 3

[Text] Brasilia—Bahia Governor Antonio Carlos Magalhaes (PFL-BA) [Liberal Front Party-Bahia] yesterday freed his congressional bloc to allow it to vote according to individual conscience. He announced, however, that most will vote against the impeachment request. He said that the Bahia congressional bloc normally follows the directives of their leader, Luis Eduardo Magalhaes, "but since the PFL command has freed the party at the national level, Bahia also is freed." The governor nonetheless reasserted his position of support for President Fernando Collor and he predicted that whatever the result of the crisis, he will play an important role in favor of Bahia and the country.

"It is not my task to seek votes or to take votes. Each deputy must vote according to his conscience," the governor said during an interview.

Antonio Carlos Magalhaes remarked that most of the Bahia congressional bloc will vote against the impeachment request. He said he believes that congress "will make a wise and responsible decision in keeping with the situation in the country" and that Collor will have the right to defend himself against the accusations.

During a dinner Collor held with pro-government congressmen, Antonio Carlos Magalhaes expressed his definite support for the government, marking a position different from that of the rest of the PFL leadership. His son, Luiz Eduardo, broke the silence to deliver a speech greeting Collor and to assure him of the support of the government bloc. Luiz Eduardo acted as Collor's main escort during the dinner, taking the president from table to table.

"We will work to prevent approval of the impeachment request. Such a struggle demonstrates a dispute for power and an attempt to prevent President Collor from carrying out the reforms to modernize the country," Luiz Eduardo said.

Until 2 September Luiz Eduardo signaled that his group had not yet decided to join the hand-to-hand fight to conquer votes against the impeachment request.

Parties Name Impeachment Committee Members

PY0409134692 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Correspondent Jorge Vanburg report]

[Text] The Chamber of Deputies committee that will review the request for impeachment of the president of the republic will not be installed until 8 September, but the political parties already will have appointed their representatives by then.

Here is a report by Jorge Vanburg.

[Vanburg] The PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party], the largest bloc in the Chamber of Deputies, has chosen Deputies Joao Almeida, Jose Thomaz Nono, Lazaro Barbosa, Manoel Moreira, Maurilio Ferreira Lima, Nelson Jobim, Neuto de Conto, Ubiratan Aguiar, and Murilo Rezende.

The PTB [Brazilian Labor Party] has appointed Deputies Roberto Jefferson, Gastone Righi, and Nelson Marquezelli who is the PTB's leader in the Chamber of Deputies.

The PT [Workers Party] will be represented by Deputies Jose Dirceu, Jose Genoino, and Helio Bicudo.

The government PFL-PRN [Liberal Front Party-National Reconstruction Party] bloc still has not chosen its representatives for the committee, which will total 49 members and an equal number of alternates.

The initial assessment indicates a small advantage for the government—25 deputies to 24—but the decider will be the PDS [Democratic Social Party], which will make four appointments and establish a comfortable majority for either the government or the opposition, depending on the choice to be made by PDS leader Jose Luiz Maia.

Government Holds Majority

PY0509031992 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Report by correspondent Beth Veloso from Brasilia]

[Text] The government controls most of the deputies who are members of the special committee that will examine the request for the impeachment of President Fernando Collor. This has been guaranteed by Senator Odacir Soares, the new government bloc leader in the Senate. Given the composition of parties in the special committee, the government bloc has 25 votes against the 24 votes of the opposition.

Senator Soares today criticized the lack of definition in the procedural norms for the voting session on the impeachment request. Soares said the congressmen need clear procedural rules to even safeguard the right of defense. He also said that Chamber of Deputies President Ibsen Pinheiro must strictly respect the law, be it the Constitution, the internal rules of the Chamber, or Law No. 1079. The pro-government bloc in Congress has already defined the procedures to be followed.

[Begin Soares recording, in progress] ...it establishes that there must be a two-thirds quorum. There must be a two-thirds quorum in any voting session in the Chamber of Deputies. The government also considers that the voting session must be secret. These are basic constitutional points on which we will always base ourselves in case the procedures are not respected in the Chamber of Deputies. [end recording]

Senator Odacir Soares ruled out the possibility of a second voting round in the Chamber of Deputies to

establish that the voting session on the impeachment request be held before 30 October. He said the government is willing to resort to the Supreme Court whenever it feels aggrieved.

Collor To Reshuffle Cabinet; Marques To Remain

PY0609033892 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 5 Sep 92 p 1

[Text] President Fernando Collor de Mello will promote a ministerial cabinet reshuffle, but will keep Economy Minister Marcilio Marques Moreira in his post. This was announced by Jose Lourenco (PDS-BA) [Social Democratic Party-Bahia State], government deputy leader in the Chamber of Deputies. The appearance of the president next to Marcilio Marques Moreira at a ceremony held at Planalto Palace yesterday was proof of this, he said. Marques Moreira said he intends to remain in the government until the Chamber of Deputies decides on the request to impeach Collor.

Marques Moreira expressed doubt about the reported release of 144.5 billion cruzeiros from the Social Action Ministry to pay deputies in exchange for votes against impeachment. In an interview granted to the British newspaper THE FINANCIAL TIMES, the minister said that the Brazilian program with the IMF is temporarily suspended.

Military Heads Block Ministers' Replacement

PY0509224992 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 5 Sep 92 p 4

[Text] Brasilia—Actions this week aimed at the replacement of three of the "outstanding" ministers—Economy Minister Marcilio Marques Moreira, Justice Minister Celio Borja, and Government Secretary Jorge Bornhausen—have been blocked through discreet participation by the military ministers. Army Minister Carlos Tinoco and Navy Minister Mario Cesar Flores conveyed to President Fernando Collor in quick contacts on 2 September that the Armed Forces disagreed with the resignation of the "outstanding" ministers, as demanded by the "shock troop" members. In a parallel action Flores visited with the three ministers, making it clear that the heads of the military ministries will not support a collective ministerial resignation, or accept breaking the commitment made in the governability declaration.

The only case considered separately is the case of Government Secretary Jorge Bornhausen. Yesterday he expressed his desire to hand over his resignation when he returns to Brasilia on 8 September. Under strong criticism from deputy-leader Jose Laurenco (PDS-BA) [Democratic Social Party-Bahia], one of the members of the "shock troops," Bornhausen will meet on 8 September with Celio Borja and Marcilio Marques Moreira. He plans to leave his post that day, with the agreement of the other two.

An advisor said: His situation is different. He lost his job. On 2 September, when speculation was being made about the resignation of the "outstanding" ministers, Tinoco reaffirmed to President Collor the commitment of the military ministers to the governability declaration. He said that the Armed Forces would not agree with ministerial changes. That afternoon, Flores met with Borja and Bornhausen, to whom he conveyed the same message. The "outstanding" ministers disagree, alleging that the slow impeachment [preceding word in English] petition process was obstructing the fulfillment of the declaration.

Yesterday, after the comments made by members of the "shock troops" supporting the resignation of the "outstanding" ministers, some reversed their positions:

It was a misunderstanding. I was not clear. I believe the ministers are all in tune with the president, said Odacir Soares, a leader in the Senate, going back on what he said yesterday.

Deputy Paulo Octavio, (PRN-DF) [National Reconstruction Party-Federal District] said: There are no differences between the president and the ministers.

There were also some accommodations among the "outstanding" ministers. After discussing for one week the possibility of leaving the government, Marques Moreira said through his advisors that he will not change his position.

Yesterday President Collor took advantage of the ceremony in the Planalto Palace to hand over the Sports Merit Award to honor Marques Moreira by inviting him to participate in the event.

Lafer Under 'Great Pressure' To Resign

PY0609033092 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 5 Sep 92 p 2

[Text] The intellectual community is exerting great pressure on Foreign Minister Celso Lafer to leave the government. If other ministers leave by next week, as expected, Lafer must also go, even though Economy Minister Marcilio Marques Moreira stays.

Lafer was in Rio de Janeiro yesterday for the first meeting of the International Center of Studies for Sustainable Development, an organization created by the Rio-92 conference.

Since he has many intellectual friends in Rio de Janeiro, he will probably receive even more pressure form them.

Diplomats Leave Planalto; Alagoas Bloc Splits

PY0409130692

[Editorial Report] Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese on 3 September carries on page 7 a 190-word article reporting that the dismissal of diplomats Gelson Fonseca, Marcos Galvao, and Luis Fernando Panelli Cesar "will probably become official

tomorrow, although they are no longer working for the presidency," and that the group has already "unofficially" returned to Itamaraty. It adds that diplomats, including Foreign Minister Celso Lafer, are "discouraged." The article explains that Fonseca "refused" to write the message President Collor would deliver to the nation on 30 August and that when Presidency Secretary General Marcos Coimbra asked Galvao and Panneli to cooperate in writing the message, they also refused.

In a 300-word article on page 9 of the same publication, it is reported that "President Fernando Collor has lost most of the Alagoas Congressional bloc votes," and that even National Renewal Party, PRN, Deputy Cleto Falcao is avoiding the subject of his vote, alleging that he had been "out of the country," and had not accompanied the Congressional Investigating Committee. The article adds that of the nine Alagoas State deputies, "Olavo Calheiros (Brazilian Democratic Movement Party—PMDB), Mendonca Neto (Democratic Workers' Party—PDT), and Jose Nono (PMDB) have already said they will vote for impeachment," It states that "Deputy Roberto Torres (Brazilian Labor Party) is on all government lists as Collor's unconditional ally, but he has told other Alagoas congressmen that he will vote against the president." The article adds that "Deputy Luis Dantas (Social Christian Party—PSC) will probably also vote for impeachment." There is a list of the deputies who remain on Collor's side: Vitorio Malta, a cousin of the first lady, of the PSC; PSC leader Antonio Holanda; and Paulo Cesar Farias' brother Augusto Farias, also of the PSC. The article concludes by reporting that Senators Divaldo Suruagy (PMDB), and Teotonio Vilela Filho (Brazilian Social Democracy Party) are against Collor, who has "also lost Senator Guilhermo Palmeira (PFL)."

Military Fear Greater PT Presence With Itamar

PY0509035292 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 4 Sep 92 p 3

[Text] Belo Horizonte—The military have but one affliction regarding Vice President Itamar Franco. They fear that once he is in the Presidency, Itamar will allow more space for the Workers Party [PT] in government. The message was delivered by Division General Abdias da Costa Ramos, commander of the 4th Army Division, during a private dinner held last 28 August in the residence of Stefan Bogdan Salej, president of the Minas Electrical and Electronics Industry [Industria Eletro-Eletronica de Minas] which was attended by several Minas government officials and leading businessmen.

According to one of the guests, who requested that his name not be revealed, the dinner was "organized at the last moment" by General Abdias himself, and everyone who was invited attended. Among those who attended the dinner were Djalma Moraes, president of Telemig [expansion unknown], who is considered a link between the military and the vice president, who nominated Djalma for his post.

Vice President Franco's Behavior 'Discreet'

PY0709235492 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 7 Sep 92 p 3

[By Valeria Blanc]

[Excerpt] A day after describing the charges investigated by the CPI [Congressional Investigating Committee] on PC [Paulo Cesar Farias] as impressive, Justice Minister Celio Borja yesterday praised the behavior of Vice President Itamar Franco in the face of the political crisis and the possibility of President Fernando Collor's impeachment.

"His behavior is correct and discreet. He is not plotting and that is essential. Whoever wants people to develop respect for the Constitution and the institutions of the country, does not plot. And I think no one is plotting in Brazil, thank God," Minister Borja said in his house in Teresopolis, before departing for Brasilia.

When asked whether Itamar is ready to assume power in case Collor's impeachment is approved, the minister said:

"Do not ask me that question, for God's sake. I cannot make that kind of forecast."

Borja's statements are the opposite of those of Social Action Minister Ricardo Fiuza, who thinks the vice president is behaving as if he believes the impeachment request will be approved. [passage omitted]

Franco Counts on 'Shock Battalion' To Defend Him

PY0509172192 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 4 Sep 92 p 8

[Article by Cassia Maria]

[Text] Vice President Itamar Franco can now count on a "shock battalion" to defend him from the political maneuvers and assaults of the so-called government "shock troops." With a different work style than the government troops, which have opted for a line of attack of Deputy Roberto Jefferson (PTB-RJ) [Brazilian Labor Party-Rio de Janeiro State], the vice president's "shock battalion" has been working in silence for more than a month at the QG [general headquarters] from two apartments at Super Quadra Sul (SQS) 309, Brasilia. This is the address of Senator Alexandre Costa (PFL-MA) [Liberal Front Party-Maranhao State], a personal friend of Franco's, who also is linked closely to Senator Jose Sarney. It was here that 12 days ago Franco met with Sarney and Hugo Napoleao, the PFL national president.

The "shock battalion's" work is determined by the actions of the so-called "Sarney group" in Brasilia's political corridors. This group obtained Napoleao's support for Franco to assume [the presidency] if President Fernando Collor cannot complete his term of office.

Regarding Bahia State Governor Antonio Carlos Magalhaes (PFL), despite the fact that he has been severely

opposing the naming of Franco, the president of his party guaranteed support for the vice president in a 2-hour conversation kept secret until 3 September. Napoleao, education minister in Sarney's government, listened to the appeal of the former president to free his PFL bloc from the commitment of voting against Collor's impeachment [preceding word in English].

In his conversation with Itamar, Napoleao guaranteed the votes of the PFL bloc from Piaui State.

Vice President's Changing Attitude Viewed

PY0309005892 Sao Paulo VEJA in Portuguese 2 Sep 92 pp 30, 31

[Text] Vice President Itamar Franco is monitoring the outcome of the crisis, convinced that he has a prize-winning ticket. He will assume the government for two reasons: First, because, with the incumbent missing, the Constitution establishes that the post will be occupied by the vice president, which is an optimum feature. Second, because President Fernando Collor chose him to become his vice president, which is a bad omen. Thus his attitude oscillates like a pendulum. Two weeks ago, he seemed to be a member of the well known "coupist syndicate." Itamar told a friend: "I have known from the very outset that the president did not have the means to maintain that standard of living." Last week, more than ever, he acted like a man from Minas Gerais State. Adopting a monk's routine, Franco moved his office from Planalto Palace's annex building to a domestic office at his functional residence in Lago Sul District in Brasilia. There he keeps his television set turned on the whole day, expecting an extraordinary report. On 26 August Franco spent the whole afternoon watching television, monitoring the closing of the CPI [Congressional Investigating Committee] investigating the PC [Paulo Cesar Farias] case. On 28 August, during an unusual news conference, Franco stuck to protocol: "Brazil has a president named Fernando Collor and I hope his excellency will remain in his post." Yet in private conversations Itamar mixes the verbs, changing the conjectural "I would" to the affirmative "I will," and says he is ready to assume.

One of his closest friends said: "Itamar is convinced that he cannot make any mistakes." The vice president is in a tight spot. On the one hand, Franco tries to follow a recommendation made by his friends not to act like Cafe Filho, Getulio Vargas' vice president, who conspired against the incumbent. On the other hand, he hopes that his turn to sit on the presidential chair comes fast, and so he studies how to form his cabinet. In formal political contacts, Itamar is a serious and silent man. In private talks, he is talkative and has a quick mind. On 28 August, he overcame his usual circumspection to receive General Workers Confederation President Antonio Neto and British Ambassador Peter Heap. Ten days ago, Itamar was invited to a meeting away from the cameras with Sao Paulo State Federation of Industries President-elect Carlos Eduardo Moreira Ferreira. He refused the invitation. "Any private meeting may seem like plotting," he explained. For the same reason, he did not accept an invitation to dine at a farm in the Rio de Janeiro State mountain region at the beginning of August with a group of mega-entrepreneurs from the Rio de Janeiro-Sao Paulo area. He also declined to meet in his apartment with a group of Air Force brigadiers as a friend had suggested. With the cameras focused on him, all his movements call attention, be it for a public meeting or a more discreet meeting.

Under Age

In this see-sawing situation, Franco has been characterized by the contradictory signs he transmits. In the economic field, he has hinted already that if he takes office, he will remove Marcilio Marques Moreira. His line will be that of economic growth. He said: "Sao Paulo cannot continue having 1.2 million unemployed people. The economy must function again." With this proposal in mind, he began to court the PSDB [Brazilian Social Democracy Party] people. "I plan to have a PSDB member in this area," he told one of his advisers. At the same time, he sent a message to economist Eduardo Giannetti da Fonseca, saying that he would like to meet him. Fonseca is a Sao Paulo University professor with liberal ideas, who is considered the youthful version of Roberto Campos. The meeting was set for this week. Giannetti said he does not know what the vice president wants. He added, however, that if the vice president is seeking a government program, he already has a completed and thorough one—a liberal shock. To complement his see-sawing attitude, Franco established a mini-committee of economists, all of them connected to the Getulio Vargas Foundation and the Brazilian Center of Analysis and Planning, to draft the outline of his administration. Franco said: "No administration to take office in the conditions I would, can subject the program being implemented to a 180-degree change."

Convinced that the military and entrepreneurs will support him, Franco outlined a few decisions. He is inclined to retain only Navy Minister Mario Cesar Flores, and replace Army Minister Carlos Tinoco and Air Force Minister Socrates Monteiro. With the entrepreneurs, he has been experiencing difficulty in convincing them that he is not a nationalist dinosaur, contrary to modernization, as was so fashionable in the 1950s. "I am not against privatization. I am against corruption in the privatization process," he asserted. Despite the modern gist of his speeches, Franco recently experienced a setback. He sent former Minister Severo Gomes, an exalted nationalist, to meet with Sao Paulo entrepreneurs. At the same time, Franco counts on the PSDB members to create a liberal image and says that he plans to change the legislation on the opening of the ports. On 25 August, he summoned his most trusted advisers in an effort to prevent his image from being distorted. He asked: "Please, I don't want anyone to speak on my behalf or to attribute any type of idea to me." Franco believes the crisis has not yet reached its climax. In a conversation

held immediately after the CPI final report was approved, he said: "Collor will make use of all resources available to him. Some are talking about his resignation, but knowing the president the way I do, I don't think he will resign."

To complicate the see-sawing characteristics of his attitudes, Franco is now under pressure from some notable congressmen, who treat him as if he were an underaged president. According to Deputy Delfim Netto, the great mistake Franco may make is to yield to these politicians who, in the name of a broad national accord, want to divide power with him. Delfim said: "Franco's only chance to be successful is to make an imperial sort of administration. As he has no previous links with the politicians, he can do that." The idea of a broad alliance is based on two premises which, in Delfim Netto's opinion, are false. The first is that Franco would be a weak president and would need permanent tutoring from the politicians' intensive care unit. When he sits on the presidential chair, with the constitution in his hands, Franco will have as much power as Collor does, and will be able to decide whether or not to use it. The second mistaken idea is that the group consisting of several parties has more possibilities of ensuring governability and effectiveness within the federal machinery. Netto said: "Consensus is deceit. Whenever one tries to conciliate various opinions, one ends without any." Those who remember the beginnings of Sarney's term know how much he suffered to govern with a cabinet appointed by Tancredo Neves to please all.

Social Action Minister Interviewed on Crisis

PY0409155092 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 3 Sep 92 p 5

[Interview with Social Action Minister Ricardo Fiusa by O GLOBO reporter Jose Negreiros; place and date not given]

[Text] [Negreiros] Are you the government's new political coordinator?

[Fiuza] No. Minister Bornhausen still is the political coordinator. Recent developments, however, have led the president to get more involved in directing political actions. My job is to help assist government congressional leaders Humberto Souto and Luis Eduardo Magalhaes. The rest is pure speculation.

[Negreiros] What do you think about the speech by the Chamber of Deputies president when he received the request for impeachment [previous word given in English]?

[Fiuza] I am seriously concerned about the emotional atmosphere surrounding this issue. I have never launched political attacks at people, only at ideals. I have always argued principles. I am greatly concerned about the double standards that exist.

[Negreiros] What stands in the way of changing the vote from secret to open, provided the majority wants the change?

[Fiuza] It is remarkable that when the Chamber of Deputies had to try a deputy allegedly involved in cocaine trafficking it voted in secret. That being the case, why vote in the open the decision to start proceedings against a president? What are the interests behind taking a secret or open vote? It is done so that the judges who are going to decide the fate of the country will not be pressured for or against and so they will behave in the same way juries do when they lock themselves in to make a decision. That being the case, I was not pleased to see the president of the Chamber of Deputies go on TV to make a clearly political statement as if he were on a podium. He said: I will act in keeping with the people's wishes. I would like to ask: Is this a lynching? Are we experiencing the climate that prevailed just before the French Revolution? How can there be a trial if the person who will sign the sentence says anything but "I will pass judgment in keeping with the Constitution and the regulations?"

[Negreiros] Is the process suspect?

[Fiuza] My friend Ibsen forgot that he is the president of the Chamber of Deputies and the judge who will preside over a major decision. The nation expects its public men to display serenity and common sense.

[Negreiros] Did you know that preventive custody has been requested for Paulo Cesar Farias and Claudio Vieira?

[Fiuza] Whoever made this request is given to exaggeration and a fool. I do not know who this person is. I do want the government to impound assets, order preventive custody, arrest, seize and freeze assets, restrict travel abroad, all according to the law. I do not want arbitrary actions. If there is a prosecutor who can ask for all of this and has not done so he is not serving his country right.

[Negreiros] What arguments did the president use to convince you that he is innocent?

[Fiuza] My attitude from the very first day has been to investigate all facts and punish those guilty regardless of who they may be. It is dishonest to first twist the rules of the game. A number of people have signed a proposal to the Chamber of Deputies to change regulations on the eve of the president's trial. My God! I want laws to be complied with, the institutions to be strengthened, and the nation to be respected.

[Negreiros] How many votes does the government have in the Chamber of Deputies?

[Fiuza] I will not give any numbers and I challenge anyone to say that I am engaging in political chicanery. The president is explaining his reasons to the congressmen. He has the right to defend himself. I have reasons to believe that the president is not involved in corruption.

[Negreiros] The PFL [Liberal Front Party] has split. Which PFL faction do you follow?

[Fiuza] You should ask members of the PT [Workers Party]—a dogmatic, ideological party which has something totalitarian called "intellectual discipline"—if you want an answer this kind of question. In my PFL the members act according to their conscience.

[Negreiros] You did not lend your support to the governability document that the ministers put out?

[Fiuza] My conscience will tell me how long I will remain in the administration. I will remain until I lose faith in the president's reasons, even if I am the last one to go. The entire proceedings of the CPI are suspect. Recently, to confirm that [Collor's private secretary] Ana Acioli did not withdraw money from her accounts right before the economic plan to freeze cruzados went into effect, we had to resort to a paid ad because the newspapers did not publish this information.

[Negreiros] Why did you change your attitude after the presidential speech to the nation and adopt a position different from the other PFL leaders?

[Fiuza] I did not change. The president had the courtesy to invite me to listen to some of my opinions. I am the social action minister whose accounts are open to any audit. I challenge anyone to say that he has been turned down because he said that he would not vote for the president. I am calling fellow party members and explaining the president's program to them, reminding them of all the interests the president has gone against to implement this program.

First Lady Faces 'Yet Another' Investigation

PY0409154492 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 3 Sep 92 p 11

[Text] Brasilia—On 2 September police opened yet another investigation, the ninth, into the affairs of First Lady Rosane Collor, who has been accused of using public funds to pay for a party for her friend Eunicia Guimaraes. The investigation was opened on the orders of Federal Attorney Antonio Carlos Alpino Bigonha and will be carried out by Commissioner Evangelista Vieira da Silva, who will find out whether Rosane committed the crime of embezzlement (the use of public monies for personal or third party use) when she held a birthday party on July 1991 at the Alvorada Palace.

The party cost 134 million cruzeiros (current values) and it was paid by Planalto Palace. The federal attorney based his decision on a ruling handed down by Judge Novely Vilanova, of the 7th Federal Jurisdiction, who sentenced Sergio Mauricio da Costa Pallazzo, director general of Planalto Palace, to return to the public coffers the money that was used on that occasion.

This is the ninth investigation into the affairs of the first lady. The PF [Federal Police] opened seven investigations in Alagoas State alone to investigate irregular movement of resources of the LBA [Brazilian Welfare Legion] that were ordered by Rosane when she was president of the organization. Another investigation has been opened in Sao Paulo for the same reasons.

Attorney General To File Charges Against Collor

PY0709191692 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 3 Sep 92 Section 1 p 5

[Article by Katia Cubel and Gustavo Krieger]

[Text] Attorney General Aristides Junqueira will file charges for common crimes with the STF [Federal Supreme Court] against President Fernando Collor within 10 days. He instructed the prosecutors who are investigating the links between President Collor and PC [Paulo Cesar] Farias to work together to close the process by the end of next week.

Junqueira will summon the team that helped the CPI [Congressional Investigating Committee] in Collorgate to help him examine half a tonne of documents he received from Deputy Benito Gama (PFL-BA) [Liberal Front Party-Bahia]. Junqueira, who is the only authorized official who can file charges for common crimes against the president, will ask for auditors of the TCU [National Accounting Office] and for experts of the Central Bank to help him.

In particular, the external advisory group will help the attorney general examine the "ghost" checks that were deposited in the bank accounts of the president's relatives. Part of the team also will have to work with Prosecutors Odim Ferreira and Italo Fioravante on the inquest of PC Farias. According to the Banks Subcommittee, the five TCU auditors who worked with the CPI know every check, every document involving the president with the PC Farias scheme.

Constitutionally, the TCU is an organization that assists Congress, and it is not obligated to assign its officials to the Attorney General's Office. TCU President Carlos Atila told FOLHA DE SAO PAULO that it is his prerogative to decide if he will assign auditors. Atila said: "If Junqueira needs auditors it will be very difficult to refuse."

Until he states his position, Junqueira will work exclusively on the Collorgate documents. He ordered that all the other documents be taken out of the room.

Collor Attends Military Parade in Brasilia

PY0709184992 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1600 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] Brazil is celebrating its independence anniversary today. In Brasilia, President Fernando Collor attended the 7 September parade in front of the Army Ministry General Headquarters.

President Collor arrived aboard a helicopter and went directly to the podium prepared for the Brazilian authorities. He was accompanied by First Lady Rosane Collor. Twelve of the 16 ministers were present, but no congressmen. Vice President Itamar Franco was also absent.

President Collor broke two traditions this year. He did not parade in an open car, and he did not review the troops. It was an Army precaution to prevent demonstrations.

Some 2,000 students from public schools in Brasilia opened the parade. Division General Antonio Carlos Bittencourt de Andrade, Commander of the Planalto Military Command, headed the military parade. The Navy brought the band from the Rio de Janeiro Marines. The Air Force made a show with its smoke aircraft, while the Army displayed a human pyramid made of 21 men on one motorcycle. This is a tradition in parades in Brasilia.

The military police and firemen's corps also participated in the parade. The federal highway police paraded for the first time. At the end of the parade, some students booed the president.

During the parade in Brasilia, the police controlled the people to prevent demonstrations. Some students tried to begin a movement, but were controlled by the police, with no incidents.

Vice President Itamar Franco is in Juiz de Fora, Minas Gerais. Lawyer Jose de Castro Ferreira, his adviser, said that the vice president will grant a news conference today.

Government Urged To Fight Recession

PY0709222492 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 7 Sep 92 p 14

[From the "Economic Prospect" column]

[Text] Mines and Energy Minister Marcus Vinicius Pratini de Moraes has admitted that there are increasing pressures for the government to do something, to implement any shock measure, to end the recession. Dollarization now appears to be the strongest alternative since the attempt to freeze prices failed. But Pratini said Economy Minister Marcilio Marques Moreira will not issue another economic package, despite the fact that businessmen and other segments of society demand an end to the recession. He seems to agree with the majority when stating: "Nobody can endure this any longer." Pratini de Moraes confirmed that he will stay in the government until the vote on the request for the impeachment [preceding word in English] of President Collor, scheduled for late September. He even believes that after the vote, a cabinet reshuffle will be inevitable with Collor or [Vice President] Itamar. Consequently, the economic policy might take a new course. That is, October could be a month of great surprises.

Minister Marques Denies Economy at 'Standstill'

PY0509190792 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1600 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Text] A few minutes ago in Rio de Janeiro, Economy Minister Marcilio Marques Moreira said that the country's economy is doing well despite the political crisis.

[Begin Marques recording] The country is not at a standstill. It is a matter of looking at the latest reports issued by consultants in Sao Paulo, for example, to see that in August and July sales increased in Sao Paulo. Figures issued by the FIESP [Sao Paulo State Federation of Industries], the National Confederation of Industries, the Getulio Vargas Foundation, and the IBGE [Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics] show that industrial production has increased. Therefore, information to the contrary is groundless. [passage omitted]

UN Security Council Seat To Replace Ecuador

PY0709140692 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Report by correspondent Kelly de Castro]

[Text] Brazil will return to the UN Security Council. For the seventh time Brazil will fill one of the vacancies within the UN Security Council, the most important political organization within the United Nations.

As the only candidate to fill the vacancy left by Ecuador, Brazil will represent the Latin American and Caribbean countries in the November elections. Itamaraty spokesman Luis Fernando Benedini said Brazil's entry into the UN Security Council is practically certain.

[Begin Benedini recording] Brazil will once against participate in the UN Security Council. Brazil held this post already during the 1988-89 period. Brazil's participation is practically certain, as there is one vacancy to represent Latin America, and Brazil is the only candidate endorsed by this group. Participation in the UN Security Council implies participation in decisions which are important within the world arena. [end recording]

The council is made up of 10 members, five of which are permanent—the United States, Great Britain, France, and the PRC [as heard]—and five of which are elected by the General Assembly for a two-year period. The main objective of the council is to maintain international peace and security.

Colombia

Rebels Attack Pipeline; Three Children Die

PA0709122292 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1700 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Report by Lydia Maria Vanegas]

[Text] These photos taken by an amateur cameraman show the attack carried out yesterday, 5 September, by the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board on the Colombian pipeline, located between Segovia and Zaragoza Municipalities, Antioquia Department. Over 10,000 barrels of oil were spilled as a result of the attack. This morning, the attack claimed another victim. In all, three children have died; five of the eight persons wounded were transported yesterday afternoon to Medellin. Right now, Colombian Petroleum Enterprise workers are trying to repair the damage to the pipeline and prevent further ecological damage in the zone.

The funeral of one of the three minors killed in the attack will take place this afternoon.

Military To Counter Attacks

PA0709125892 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0030 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] The Armed Forces currently are conducting strong military operations in the Meta, Santander, and Antioquia areas which were attacked by the guerrillas on 5 September. The soldiers, however, have not been able to make any important contact with the guerrillas who murdered 14 policemen and two children in their attacks.

More than 300 counterinsurgency soldiers and specialized policemen are conducting a search and control operation at San Benito and Santa Juana in the Villavicencio jurisdiction. On the afternoon of 6 September, the soldiers observed and engaged the guerrillas, who killed nine policemen and injured three others on 5 September. Two guerrillas died in the clash. The rebels fired on a police helicopter when they entered the mountain area.

Police forces found an abandoned van on 6 September. It was the van used by five guerrilla members to carry the rifles they had taken from the narcotics policemen. The guerrillas abandoned the van when they ran out of gas.

The Armed Forces also are carrying out military operations in Rio Negro, Santander, and search, inspection, and control operations continue in Zaragoza, Antioquia, where the guerrillas attacked the Colombian pipeline on 5 September. The guerrilla action destroyed several houses, killed two children, and seriously burned three members of a poor family in the region.

It has also been reported that wakes for the 14 policemen who were murdered by the guerrillas on 5 September, are being held in six different regions of the country.

Conditions for Talks 'Vanished'

PA0609195692 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0030 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Report by Jesus Garzon]

[Text] As an immediate reaction to the guerrilla offensive, on 5 September the government ruled out renewing the peace talks. Defense Minister Rafael Pardo Rueda emphatically stated that conditions for these talks have vanished.

As far as President Gaviria's government is concerned any possibility of signing a peace treaty in Colombia completely vanished on 5 September. Simultaneous criminal attacks on two police patrols in Meta and Santander Departments buried the government's hope to hold talks with the guerrillas.

[Begin Pardo Rueda recording] Right now there are no conditions for dialogue. The guerrillas are continuing their usual pattern of violence. As soon as they believe talks are imminent they go on a murder and attack spree to try and show the strength they do not have. [end recording]

Defense Minister Pardo Rueda, when referring to the bloody events by the FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] in (Cusco), Santander Department, and Villavicencio, Meta Department, said that these violent guerrilla actions cannot be described as anything but murder.

[Begin Pardo Rueda recording] There have been two serious guerrilla attacks on the National Police, which cannot be described as anything but murder. [end recording]

Simultaneously, the National Police operations director confirmed that 14 policemen were killed in the two ambushes and five more were wounded.

[Begin General Humberto Camelo Maldonado, National Police operations director, recording] Despite this, our men bravely continue to fulfill their constitutional mission. [end recording]

That is why the government announced that October was ruled out as a date to renew talks with the National Guerrilla Coordinating Board until the guerrillas demonstrate a strong resolve for peace.

Government Will Not Be 'Coerced'

PA0709032692 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1700 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Interview with Presidential Peace Adviser Horacio Serpa Uribe by unidentified reporter on 6 September; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Will talks with the rebels resume on 31 October?

[Serpa] I think it is highly unlikely. I have publicly stated this because the guerrillas are determined to act with totally erroneous behavior that is at odds with the interests of our country, namely, the need to seek tranquillity. The guerrillas think that by planting bombs, carrying out terrorist acts, attacking the people, killing public order agents, destroying pipelines, and inflicting harm on civilians—including totally innocent children

—that they are going to pressure the government into resuming the talks. The guerrillas are totally mistaken. The government will not be morally or politically forced or coerced. It will not yield to any kind of blackmail.

Dialogue 'No Longer Justified'

PA0709173192 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1639 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] and ELN [Army of National Liberation] guerrillas are diminishing the possibilities of holding a new peace dialogue. By killing policemen and staging terrorist actions, they want to pressure the government into holding new peace talks. The government, however, has just answered them.

[Begin recording] [Reporter Adriana Ayala] The government minister has said that a dialogue with the guerrilla groups is no longer justified. The minister said the guerrillas want to win a war with absurd actions such as those they committed this weekend, murdering three children and 17 policemen.

[Government Minister De la Calle] What occurred this past weekend is part of the guerrillas' absurd and blind strategy of attacking the Colombians after having declared war on Colombia. Under these conditions, I think it is impossible to talk about a dialogue. I think it is a topic that must necessarily remain frozen. I do not think conditions exist for a dialogue.

[Ayala] Minister De la Calle said the areas affected by the violence will be reinforced militarily because this is the only way to counteract the guerrilla actions.

[De la Calle] At this time we are seeing that the public force is more effective. It is operating throughout the country and has greater budget support. The government has made an effort to collect a tax to strengthen the action by the public force. I think that is the path we have open and we will continue with this policy.

[Ayala] President Gaviria will be meeting with his ministers in a few minutes to analyze the country's delicate public order situation. [end recording]

Pablo Escobar Issues Recorded Statement

PA0809002492 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Report by Miriam Ortiz]

[Text] This newscast learned on 7 September of the first statements made by Pablo Escobar after his escape from La Catedral Prison. An envelope with Escobar's fingerprints and signature reached EL NUEVO SIGLO. Escobar talks about his life, the process for surrendering to the justice system, and the conditions of his new surrender, among other things.

Escobar sent a cassette and an interview with 120 questions to EL NUEVO SIGLO. The text reiterates that the government knew about everything going on at La Catedral, and the events that emerged were the result of previous conversations with the government. He also said he is willing to turn himself in if his security is guaranteed somewhere in Antioquia Department. These are some of the questions Escobar answered:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker] Are you willing to surrender unconditionally to the justice system again, as the government has reiterated?

[Escobar] I cannot risk my life so they can murder me just as they did with 19 April Movement leader Carlos Pizarro Leongomez and Patriotic Union leader Bernardo Jaramillo Ossa.

[Unidentified speaker] What are your demands today?

[Escobar] The most modest and humble prison in Antioquia, but with an absolute guarantee that I will not be transferred for any reason. I also want my rights guaranteed, as any other Colombian prisoner. [end recording]

Escobar was also asked what his fundamental reasons are for not turning himself in to the Colombian justice system for a second time. Escobar responds: The reasons are not many, but I need written and public guarantees. I am not going to be used as bait or as a publicity distraction at a time when Colombians do not have water or electricity.

Why did you initially turn yourself in to the Colombian justice system? Escobar responds: To contribute to peace, and the price the government paid for that peace was not very high, because they only gave me an adequate prison. Others were given ministries, congressional seats, money, armored vehicles, government bodyguards, and amnesty.

How can you describe the military operation that led to your escape? Escobar answers: Had they explained things to me and if everything had been cleared up, I would have allowed two soldiers to take me and there would not have been a need for battalions or tanks.

Do you admit to committing a crime or ordering a murder? Escobar replies: I could only answer that question to a priest in a confessional.

Finally, Escobar said General Miguel Maza Marquez spends his time inventing attacks against himself such as the one in Venezuela. Escobar said he does not regret having escaped and, under the same circumstances, he would do it again.

Ecuador

New Economic Measures, Fuel Prices Announced

PA0709161492 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 2300 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] The Mines and Energy Ministry has announced the official fuel prices that will go into effect as of 4 September in accordance with the new economic measures adopted by the national government headed by architect Sixto Duran-Ballen.

Super gasoline—2,400 sucres per gallon; extra gasoline—1,460; diesel—1,460; slush—685; turbo fuel—1,600; avgas—2,200; AP3 asphalt—500; RC2 asphalt—500; turpentine mineral—1,750; rubber solvent—1,750; solvent No. 1—1,750; spray oil—1,200; domestic gas—231 per kg; kerex [as heard]—60 (frozen); and regular gasoline—240 (frozen).

VAT Extended to 'All' Sectors

PA0409172592 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] President Sixto Duran-Ballen requested a nine to 12-month waiting period for judgment of the nation's progress, after pointing out that miracles do not exist. He reiterated a proposed truce period with Congress, the political parties, labor unions and associations, business sectors, and all those who comprise Ecuadoran society to take up the nation's problems with determination and honesty. Either we make real changes, or today's measures will only be another marcoeconomic package, and not a change on the road to a new society, Duran-Ballen noted. The president explained that initially, inflation could increase to 7 percent monthly, as a left-over cumulative and due to previous economic irresponsibility, but subsequently it would fall, it would be controlled and then reduced drastically.

Finance Minister Mario Rivadeneira announced several changes and said that the government has no intention of increasing taxes but that the Value Added Tax [VAT] would be applied to all sectors and a greater effort would be made to increase tax collection. Rivadeneira also reported on several measures to reduce public spending, among them, the suspension of commercial advisory and the elimination, merger, or transfer to the private sector of several state run companies and programs.

Public Employees Reject 'Salvation Measures'

PA0709153192 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 2300 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] The government's latest economic measures will impose a war economy on the Ecuadoreans and on public employees, and the labor sector will respond to that, say leaders of Conasep [National Confederation of Public Employees]. In fact, Conasep's hierarchy has criticized harshly and violently the alleged salvation measures that the government of architect Sixto Duran-Ballen will implement beginning 4 September as an answer to the popular support he received during the past elections.

This is no way to respond to the people, said Jacinto Posligua Galarza, secretary general of Conasep, who has seen the people's hopes thwarted by the current government. Posligua said the Ecuadoran people cannot be betrayed this way. An attempt is now being made, he said, to give the impression that the public employees are the ones who have caused the ills that are burdening the country, that they are responsible for the fiscal debacle, and that they are the ones consuming the state budget. None of this is true. The responsibility for the fiscal economic crisis lies solely with the former Borja government and its mastermind Pablo Better, who left the coffers almost empty. They are the ones who must respond to history and the Ecuadoran people about the mistakes of their administration; not the public employees who are poorly paid and currently are not even receiving their salaries.

Package 'Lacks' Economic Goals

PA0509040192 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 2300 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] A National Congress press bulletin has stated that the economic package decreed by the national government lacks social sensibility and favors the business-exporter-financial circle that contributed to President Sixto Duran-Ballen's electoral campaign and that has taken charge of all government institutions. The economic measures lack precise economic goals and do not take into account the deterioration of the lower and middle classes. Likewise, the bulletin adds, these measures will affect peasants and small and medium-sized industries.

Price increases for gasoline, electric power, and telephone rates affect wage earners, casual laborers, and the self-employed. In view of the hike in prices of goods and services, Ecuadoreans' purchasing power will decrease, especially that of people with a fixed income, such as medium and low wage earners.

In the medium term, the bulletin adds, inflation will exceed 80 percent, unemployment will increase, and the economic recession will increase during 1993, unleashing social tension, crime, and the migration of poor peasants.

It seems that the economic team's intelligence and creativity ran out in designing these economic measures, and they did not have enough to design compensatory social measures to soften the social impact of the economic measures.

It is shameful, the bulletin adds, that the membership of certain Monetary Board members in certain pressure groups has meant that the gigantic benefits of Ecuador's export and financial sectors go untaxed. It is fitting

within this context to suggest to the national government that if it does not want a social explosion, it should agree to the following compensations:

To extend a monthly family subsidy to all wage earners with a minimum benefit to cover spouse, children under the age of 16, and invalid parents. A gradual increase should be carefully studied.

An increase in IESS [Ecuadoran Social Security Institute] pensions, which would be included in the 16th month salary and the family subsidy payment.

The current situation merits a general adjustment of wages and salaries based on cost-of-living increases from 1992 onward.

For the aforementioned measures, a study needs to be done to implement a 20 percent tax on debt reconversion on the value recognized at the time of the conversion.

Lastly, the National Congress bulletin says it is regrettable that economist Alberto Dahik who drafted these measures has not had enough courage to address the Ecuadoran people. He has limited his activities to stirring up trouble and then running the other direction.

Bombings, Propaganda Appear in Several Cities

PA0709131692 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0211 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] Quito, 6 Sep (EFE)—The Ecuadoran police refrained from comment on 6 September regarding suspects in bomb attacks on official buildings that occurred over the past two days.

Since early on 5 September, at least four medium-sized bombs exploded in Quito, Guayaquil, Latacunga, and Riobamba, injuring a woman and causing property damage, according to the authorities.

The explosives were thrown at the Agriculture Ministry in Quito, a Finance Ministry branch office in Guayaquil, an office of the state-owned oil company in Latacunga, and a building owned by the governor of Chimborazo in Riobamba.

The attacks took place after President Sixto Duran-Ballen's administration announced its economic plan, which provides for considerable increases in electricity rates and gasoline prices.

The newspaper EXPRESO of Guayaquil said in a 6 September report on the attacks that for the past few days, signs have appeared on walls in Quito saying: "Let the kites [cometas] continue to fly. Long live the Shining Path."

Armed Forces Deployed

PA0809003392 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] The Ecuadoran Government has authorized the deployment of the Armed Forces as a precautionary measure to guarantee the security of persons and public and private property, it was reported on 7 September.

President Sixto Duran-Ballen issued an executive decree on 3 September ordering the deployment of the Armed Forces throughout the national territory. In the preamble of the decree, the president said there have been acts of vandalism, attacks against the physical integrity of individuals, and considerable damage to public and private property throughout the country, especially in the cities of Quito and Guayaquil, which are the two most densely populated. For several weeks, the media have carried daily reports of increasing crime in principal Ecuadoran cities.

The decree was issued on the same day the government announced an economic adjustment program that includes considerable increases in gasoline prices and electricity rates and a severe reduction in public spending, all if which were rejected by opposition parties and the labor unions.

There were four explosions over the weekend of 5 September in several government buildings in Quito, Guayaquil, Latacunga, and Riobamba. So far no group has claimed responsibility for the explosions.

Defense Minister on Counternarcotics Commitment

PA0509132992 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 2300 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Report by Francisco Sanchez]

[Text] General Jose Gallardo Roman, the defense minister, highlighted the U.S. support received in the counternarcotics struggle in Ecuador with the delivery of two C-130 aircraft. The minister regretted the arrest warrant issued against Gen. Juan Francisco Donoso, the former deputy defense secretary.

[Begin recording] [Gallardo] The truth is that we received news of that arrest warrant with regret. We have said on several occasions that Gen. Donoso served honorably and honestly during his active service. This affair will have to be dealt with by the justice system. We do not want to interfere in any way whatsoever because we could harm his case and give reason to think that we want to exert some sort of pressure on the justice system, which has full autonomy in our country. We remain calm and regret this unfortunate event.

[Sanchez] [Question indistinct]

[Gallardo] The Air Force received two used C-130 aircraft. These aircraft will serve to shuttle troops and equipment to combat drug trafficking. This fight is Ecuador's basic interest and thus it is the Armed Forces' basic interest as well. The assistance we may receive from other countries—the United States in this case or from neighboring countries—is an action that originates from our own interest. The United States also supplied river craft in the past to fight drug trafficking. We have fully trained personnel for this task throughout the

country—constant patrols to dissuade the planting of cocaine or marijuana in Ecuador. [end recording]

Lastly, Gen. Jose Gallardo Roman said that no high-ranking meeting is planned between Ecuadoran and Peruvian officers and any decision on this will need to be made by the president and nothing to this effect has been discussed. Gallardo said that possibly the Maravi meeting of the Ecuadoran and Peruvian presidents is intended to discuss other topics and not military topics.

Customs Duties With Colombia To Be Removed

PA0409172792 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 2 Sep 92

[Text] Ecuador and Colombia reaffirmed their decision to issue, before 30 September, the legal dispositions that will eliminate customs duties currently in effect on all products included in the automatic duty reduction list.

During a meeting held in Quito between official and private sector delegations from both countries which ended on 1 September, it was decided that before 30 September the Cartagena Agreement Council would be notified of the internal dispositions through which Ecuador and Colombia will proceed to eliminate the recipocral trade exemptions list.

The final declaration of the Quito meeting specifies that both governments will eliminate, by 30 September at the latest, all quantitative restrictions as well as any import licenses currently required. The declaration establishes that the Colombian Government will promote the necessary measures to guarantee access to Ecuadoran spirits to its territory within the framework of legal dispositions currently in effect.

The declaration also establishes that the Ecuadoran Government will eliminate the preliminary license requirement applied to all spirits imported from Colombia. Both countries have agreed to eliminate all types of licenses or permits as a preliminary requirement in order to have access to the needed foreign currency that will encourage bilateral commerical transactions.

With regard to the agriculture sector, both governments ratified the need to harmonize and officially confirm the requirements and procedures applicable to the import and export of vegetable and animal products.

At Colombia's request, the Ecuadoran agriculture minister will consult the Finance Ministry with respect to the application of the exemptions included in the agriculture development legislation.

According to the Quito meeting declaration, by 15 September at the latest, Ecuador and Colombia will substitute all legal norms currently in effect that establish subsidies to currency, financial, and fiscal exports to proceed with their final elimination by 30 September.

Government Supports Peace Efforts in Bosnia

PA0409152792 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 2 Sep 92

[Text] The Ecuadoran Foreign Ministry announced on 1 September that Ecuador supports the regional efforts made to solve the situation in Bosnia, particularly efforts by the CSCE, the EC, and the recent conference in London.

The announcement was made to the national press on the occasion of Ecuador assuming effective 1 September the chairmanship of the UN Security Council through its ambassador Jose Ayala Lasso. Ecuador's stand will promote peace, support democracy, defend peaceful solutions to controversies, and unconditionally respect human rights, Foreign Minister Diego Paredes said.

This is the second time in which our country has been the president of the UN Security Council.

Peru

President Fujimori Comments on New Tax Code

PA0409140592 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Text] In less than 15 days, the government will legalize the new tax code. This announcement was made by President Alberto Fujimori after inaugurating the new Economy and Finance Ministry headquarters.

President Fujimori said it is necessary to broaden the tax base and significantly increase tax revenues. He also ratified his trust in the members of the Central Reserve Bank Board of Directors. He pointed out, however, there would be changes in the financial institution.

[Begin Fujimori recording] The objective of the tax code is to seek more revenue, but with more cooperation and communication between the tax collection agency and taxpayers. In no way should the tax code be viewed as a monster to pressure taxpayers. It should be a clear, open, and cooperative relationship. In addition, this tax code will curb tax evasion. Until a few years ago, tax evasion was enormous. Fortunately, tax payment awareness is being created among Peruvian taxpayers. Until now, revenue collection has surpassed 450 million soles. There is a continuous and permanent increase in revenues, which allows us to satisfy the numerous social needs.

We expect to enact the tax code very soon. I expect that it will be done in 10 or 15 days. There will be some very special innovations included in the code, such as what we have designated as the taxpayers club. [end recording]

Remarks on Election Laws

PA0409215692 Lima Global de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Passages within quotation marks are recorded]

[Text] On 2 September, President Alberto Fujimori said that the recent modification in the election law will guarantee the participation of parties, with true popular representation, in the elections for a constitutent assembly.

He confirmed that the government will sponsor and support a list for the 22 elections. In remarks made at the new Economy and Finance Ministry building, the president said he does not rule out the possibility of introducing changes in the board of directors of the Central Reserve Bank.

[Unidentified reporter] Fujimori began his statements by explaining aspects of the new tax code and announcing the taxpayers club, a group that will comprise all those who pay to the SUNA [National Superintendency of Tax Administration] on time.

[Fujimori] "Tax collection to date surpasses 450 million soles, thus, there is a steady increase. This allows us to meet the various social needs. We hope to promulgate the tax code soon, I do not know if it will be within 10 to 15 days. It will contain interesting new aspects such as what we have called the taxpayers club. Those who have a clean record with regard to their contributions will belong to this club. There will be certain benefits and advantages for those who belong to this club. We will explain all this on another occasion."

[Reporter] Fujimori continued to talk about economic matters. He said that he does not rule out the possibility of making changes at the Central Reserve Bank, including top officials.

[Fujimori] "There could be small changes but I reiterate my trust in the members of the Central Bank's board of directors.

[Reporter] "Including its president?"

[Fujimori] "Including Mr. German Suarez. Some new members could be appointed to replace current members, that could also happen."

[Reporter] Discussing political matters, the president explained the reasons why the government promulgated Decree No. 25701 which compels political parties that belong to election alliances to register again.

[Fujimori] "To get a seat in the new CCD [Democratic Constitutent Congress] one would need to have approximately 100,000 signatures. Well, to get at least one seat, a list of 80 candidates must present 100,000 signatures. We cannot permit participation by minuscule groups in an indiscriminate manner. They must have some backing. The government did not set the figure arbitrarily, it was a figure set several years ago."

[Reporter] The president also announced the upcoming presentation of the list of candidates that the government will sponsor in the next elections and did not rule out his participation in the electoral campaign.

[Fujimori] "There is nothing strange about it. It happens everywhere. And do not be surprised that some three weeks prior to the elections I will be participating in the campaign. It is something natural. President Bush, in the United States, the largest democracy in the world [as heard], is in full campaign. I am not campaigning but I will begin soon."

Fujimori on Working Tours, Prison Conditions

PA0609215592 Lima Global de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 6 Sep 92

[News conference by President Alberto Fujimori with unidentified reporters in Lima on 6 September—recorded]

[Text] [Fujimori] I think it has been a very interesting working tour. Once again I have been able to ascertain that there are some very urgent needs to look after, and there are some needs that cannot be met with mounting investments. In the education sector, for example, aside from the need for more classrooms—which really calls for a very high budget—there are other needs for which the student body and the teachers would like some specific answers. Introducing technology to a region is a good example. Computers are welcomed everywhere. There is an increasing demand for computers, and I believe that is a very positive sign.

Another need is related to improvements to the communication lines between the region. We are working very hard on this by using the equipment we have already received. We have received 40 new trucks, and now we must prepare another operations budget.

With respect to the health sector, it has been neglected and has some urgent and substantial needs that must be addressed. We want to provide short term solutions where significant investments are not needed immediately. In that respect, the decree we plan to issue shortly will allow us to purchase medication and medical equipment for at least a year. Thus we will be able to satisfy some of the sector's needs.

[Reporter] Mr. President, today you also visited Yanamayo Prison where Osman Morote and Victor Polay are held. What are their current conditions? Do they have any privileges? What can you say about your inspection?

[Fujimori] Well, first of all, there are no privileges. Everything goes strictly according to the law. All inmates who are considered dangerous criminals are being kept in single cells. Those who are not considered dangerous are in common cells large enough to hold 15 other persons.

[Reporter] Their relatives claim they are being tortured and subjected to psychological pressures.

[Fujimori] That is untrue because the district attorneys and representatives from organizations such as human rights groups and the Red Cross have complete access to these two gentlemen. To be honest, the prison is comfortable enough.

[Reporter] Is it also safe?

[Fujimori] It is safe. There are no privileges, and the terrorists do not control the prison. That aspect is a complete change from previous experiences.

[Reporter] Would you please tell us what their health is like? How are Morote and Polay living in this prison?

[Fujimori] Well, they are living under normal prison conditions. The difference now is that we have legislation similar to that applied in the United States. For example, only two relatives per inmate are allowed to visit each month. The inmates' relatives have protested that decision.

[Reporter] Is that why they have protested visiting rights?

[Fujimori] Probably. Before it was typical for them to receive constant visits. It was also an opportunity to carry out some indoctrination. Now the law is being strictly applied, and it is a law we have adopted from Mexican legislation. Those who are jailed in security prisons are only allowed to receive two relatives each month.

[Reporter] When will the special courts trials you have announced begin to take place?

[Fujimori] The moment the legislation goes into effect, criminals who are arrested from that time on will be tried by military courts. The law is not retroactive.

[Reporter] Then the military courts will not try Morote or Polay?

[Fujimori] In their specific case it does not apply, unless a special disposition is decreed. At the moment I am not aware of any special disposition.

[Reporter] While accompanying you on this trip, I was reminded of several moments of your presidential campaign. Does your trip have anything to do with what I have just mentioned?

[Fujimori] Well, maybe it is just an analogy that came about spontaneously. I prefer to interpret it as popular support. The support of the people in Puno and other cities that I have not visited such as Camana, Quilca, Mollendo or (Boca Chacre) in Arequipa is really extraordinary. The level of support in all these cities has remained constant.

[Reporter] Would you describe it as spontaneous and natural support?

[Fujimori] Of course. I have not summoned any of those people. I merely arrived, and it was announced that I had arrived.

[Reporter] Do you plan to continue with the visits to the interior of the country?

[Fujimori] I plan to continue these working tours to places that have been neglected, places where it is necessary for us to support the people. All of these places are really forgotten and forsaken.

Car Bomb Destroys Precinct; Policeman Killed

PA0709042992 Lima Radio Programas del Peru Network in Spanish 0329 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] Here is a report from Manolo Torres from our mobile unit:

[Torres] At 2028 [0128 GMT] subversives blew up a vehicle loaded with explosives. The rapid assistance police precinct located in the Mirones zone on the corner of Argentina and Nicolas Duenas Avenues was totally destroyed. The police precinct provided decentralized emergency service to Lima's low-income areas. The installations of a radio station located approximately 15 meters from the site of the explosion were also heavily damaged. The installations of Radio Moderna and its transmitting antenna were heavily damaged. We still do not know the fate of the policemen who worked in this precinct. Firemen are extinguishing the fires caused by the explosives. [Words indistinct] we have learned some of the materials carried by the policemen were found in this sector. We still do now know, however, if there were any fatalities. Meanwhile, the wounded are being helped by firemen who have come to the area. Ambulances [words indistinct] as well as policemen who are assisting the wounded. In a few minutes we will have more information from the Mirones zone, [words indistinct], the site of a bomb explosion, destroying the police's rapid assistance precinct located in this sector.

A policeman who worked in Precinct No. 11 was killed by the explosion. Many employees of Radio Moderna radio station were also injured. Sir, do you work for Radio Moderna.

[First unidentified radio station employee] [Words indistinct] we were inside broadcasting the "Family Sunday" program, and approximately....[pauses] We heard some shots and thought someone was shooting at the door. We tried to hide. [Words indistinct] Suddenly there was a violent explosion [words indistinct].

[Torres] How many people were injured?

[First radio station employee] Only two.

[Torres] Where were they hurt?

[Second unidentified radio station employee] In the legs and head.

[First radio station employee] Somebody else was also hit in the head.

[Torres] [Question indistinct]

[First radio station employee] [Words indistinct] the rapid assistance precinct was destroyed. We [words indistinct]

[Torres] These were the employees of the radio station that is very close to the precinct that was destroyed by the car bomb in the Mirones area. Back to our studios.

APRA Will Not Participate in Elections

PA0409175492 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Sep 92

[Telephone interview with Luis Alvarado, deputy of the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance, APRA, by Roxana Canedo—live]

[Text] [Canedo] Dr. Jorge del Castillo, a leader of APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance], has said the organization will not fall for the government's divisive game. Those are his very words. There seems to be, however, division within the party, because Dr. Luis Alvarado, chairman of the APRA parliamentarian bloc and member of the APRA Political Commission, said that for the time being the Lima departmental plenum favors participating in the Democratic Constituent Congress [CCD] elections. Other APRA members disagree. We have Dr. Luis Alvarado on the line, good morning.

[Alvarado] Good morning, Roxana.

[Canedo] What happened?

[Alvarado] Allow me to make a necessary clarification. On 1 September I said the plenum of the metropolitan Lima branch of APRA had decided to participate in the upcoming CCD elections. I evidently made a mistake that I am now able to rectify thanks to the democratic nature of Channel Five. The truth is the plenum of the metropolitan Lima branch decided the exact opposite: To not participate in the elections. I apologize for this mistake.

[Canedo] Pardon me, you are making a rectification; you made a mistake. The departmental plenum of Lima decided not to participate but you suffered a lapse and said it would participate...

[Alvarado, interrupting] Yes, I had said it decided to participate, yes. I wanted to make this clarification in honor of the truth: By a broad majority on 29 August, my party, through the plenum of the metropolitan Lima branch, decided, I repeat, not to participate in the elections. This will be our proposal to the national plenary session which will be held in the near future.

[Canedo] The rectification has been made. Dr. Alvarado, many viewers are wondering whether you are making this rectification under pressure by APRA members or leaders or because this is indeed the truth. Was the Lima branch partially in favor of participating but had expected massive support for its stance?

[Alvarado] There is no pressure whatsoever now or ever. This does not happen within APRA. I simply am correcting a mistake. APRA members attended the plenary session on 28 and 29 August. A vote was called after a democratic debate and the result was the one I mentioned: not to participate. This will be our proposal to the national plenary session which, I repeat, will take place in the next few days.

[Canedo] What is your opinion on the amendments to the election law?

[Alvarado] They are part of the anti-democratic measures. It happens that the de facto president has always said there will be no changes but they are in fact being implemented on the run. I think the aim is to violate, in an anti-democratic manner, the rights, for example, of various groups of the other left wing...

[Canedo, interrupting] Of the other left wing?

[Alvarado] ...that is why there are elements leading us to strengthen our stance against the announced elections.

[Canedo] Dr. Alvarado, we will wait for the decision of the APRA national plenum on whether it will participate in the CCD elections.

[Alvarado] Whatever the decision may be it will be complied with by all APRA members. Thank you.

[Canedo] Thank you. Let us hope you will not suffer a lapse of this magnitude in the future.

[Alvarado] I will exercise caution, otherwise, my companions will line up to hang me. [laughter]

Bolona Denies Central Reserve Bank Resignations

PA0409231092 Lima Global de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Text] Carlos Bolona, economy and finance minister, denied on 2 September that the Central Reserve Bank directors had resigned en masse. Bolona did admit, however, that some changes could take place. In another turn of events, Bolona volunteered that Sunat [National Superintendency of Tax Administration] rules will be modified because they are not yielding the expected results.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Have the superintendents resigned?

[Bolona] My understanding is that the directors have not resigned. I believe that resolving differences and continuing to work together to attain our common goals should be uppermost in our minds.

[Reporter] Have differences between the president and the officials led them to make that decision?

[Bolona] I believe we need more coordination regarding interest and exchange rate policies and to resolve certain cost increase problems in the financial sector. We also have certain cost overruns that we want to work on together. That includes [words indistinct] and other authorities such as the bank superintendency, the Central Reserve Bank, the National Bank, and so on.

[Reporter] What will the IGV [General Sales Tax] law cover?

[Bolona] The IGV law should include the many changes the IGV has undergone by the series of extraordinary decrees or law decrees that have been issued. An orderly IGV law with an improved text should be the result.

[Reporter] What about the income tax?

[Bolona] The same applies. We need to include a series of currently applicable rulings, which I believe can be improved and thereby produce a more orderly text.

[Reporter] When will this become effective?

[Bolona] Soon, I believe. [end recording]

Venezuela

President Perez Comments on Turpial Case

PA0509143792 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] With regard to the Turpial project, President Carlos Andres Perez said the case is in the courts, not because someone announced it or because some newspapers has made a scandal out of it, but because the executive branch, in his name, ordered the investigations into the alleged irregularities in that Army project.

[Begin Perez recording, broadcast in progress] ...and the military trial produced the first arrest warrants. One for (Lobera), president of the company, another for a Finance Ministry official, and others for some other persons.

By order of the Supreme Court of Justice, however, the case was passed to a civilian court and there is a problem with the new arrest warrants. There have been some objections to the procedure followed by the judge. The courts will have to solve that problem and the executive branch has nothing to do with it.

Nonetheless, since this is a democracy, the executive branch can only make arrests when the courts order it, and in the meantime, the citizens are free to be here or abroad. However, there is extradition too, and when a person who is wanted by the authorities leaves the country, the Supreme Court of Justice can ask the government, or rather has to ask the government to request those citizens' extradition.

However, there are no reports of any of the high-ranking Army officers involved in this case having left the country. [end recording]

Defense Minister Remarks

PA0509143592 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] Defense Minister General Ivan Dario Jimenez Sanchez said on 4 September that all the military officials allegedly involved in the Turpial case are willing to come before the authorities. He also made reference to the recent desertions from the Armed Forces and their possible ties to the coupists of 4 February.

[Begin recording] [Jimenez] Admiral Rodriguez [word indistinct] called me on the night of 3 September and said that after he solved some personal problems he would appear before the authorities. I believe this could take place during the week of 7 September.

[Unidentified reporter] Since they are retired officers, would they have to come before you or would they have to come directly before the civilian authorities?

[Jimenez] They are dealing with the Defense Ministry because they believe, or rather seek to channel their arrests through the Defense Ministry. And since I believe that our duty is to help justice as much as we can, we will receive them gladly and deliver them to the courts.

[Second unidentified reporter] Therefore, it is possible that all the wanted officers will come before the authorities?

[Jimenez] I did not say it is possible, I said I am sure it will be that way.

[Third unidentified reporter] Minister, what reports do you have up to now with regard to the desertion of Lieutenant Aguilar in Merida and the statements he made for the press?

[Jimenez] All I have is what the press reported. Aguilar came before the press, made his statements, and the Directorate of Military Intelligence is investigating the case and trying to follow this officer in order to arrest him.

[Second unidentified reporter] Could he have any links to Lt. (Baisa)?

[Jimenez] I think it is possible. I think this was planned. I do not think these were isolated cases. I believe cases such as that of this sublieutenant are planned. It is their way of trying to maintain their status. Whenever they see they are losing support, they undertake such actions to maintain their status.

[Fourth unidentified reporter] When you speak of they are you referring to the Bolivarian 200 Revolutionary Movement?

[Jimenez] I am referring to all those who tried to stage a coup d'etat against the constitutional government on 4 February. [end recording]

Jimenez Denounces 'Destabilizing Groups'

PA0709025092 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0205 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] Caracas, 6 Sep (EFE)— Defense Minister General Ivan Jimenez on 6 September said that "certain groups are orchestrating a campaign to make the Armed Forces take up arms."

Talking to the state-owned VENPRES news agency, Jimenez said the Armed Forces will not stage any coup because "it would not just be the officers' suicide, but that of the country in general."

The defense minister did not name the destabilizing groups nor did he give details of the campaign he denounced, but he said that "the Directorate of Military Intelligence (DIM) is working to determine the identities of the members of these groups and what their objectives are."

Jimenez stated that the Armed Forces are one of the "most solid" institutions in the country and noted that as long as they remain as they are now, "the groups seeking the nation's destabilization and destruction will never prevail."

He also described as "inadvisable and harmful" the accusations of administrative irregularities involving a top official that the Caracas press has been carrying over the past days. The official acknowledged he is serving in difficult times but said he counts on a "highly capable" team of aides and on the Armed Forces, which are "noble, well-trained, and aware that the only way to face any crisis, whether internal or external, is to remain united."

Defense Ministry Denies Prisioners' Transfer

PA0609155392 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Text] Defense Minister General Ivan Dario Jimenez Sanchez issued an official communique denying information recently published in a national newspaper which reports that the lieutenant colonels involved in the 4 February incidents, would be transferred to other prisons.

[Begin Jimenez recording] The defense minister hereby reports that the information disclosed and published by the media whereby it is speculated that Lieutenant Colonel [Lt. Col.] Francisco Arias Cardenas and Lt. Col. Hugo Chavez Frias would be transferred to La Pica and Santana penitentiary units located in the States of Unagas and Tachira respectively. To date, the First Permanent Military Court of Caracas, which is responsible for the case, has not issued any orders authorizing said transfers.

The falsehood of the information disclosed by the media has surprised media representatives in their good faith. The Defense Ministry has kept and will always keep its doors open and will provide complete national interest information, with the objective of consolidating the people's trust and faith in the military institution.

In addition, the information only serves to discredit those who released this information because they have only been able to confuse public opinion by creating instability and damaging the reputation of those journalists who only seek to keep the public informed but within the boundaries of ethics set by their sensitive duties.

Likewise, this office would also appreciate the newspapers responsible for publishing the information also to extend similar treatment to, as well as express the same interest in, publishing this communique as evidence of their interest in truth and justice. [end recording]

Labor Leaders Charged With 'Influence Peddling'

PA0709125392 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] Labor leaders Antonio Rios and Jose Sanchez on 3 September were arraigned at the Higher Tribunal for the Protection of Public Property [Tribunal Superior de Salvaguarda del Patrimonio Publico], in compliance with an arrest warrant issued by that tribunal on 31 August for the alleged crime of influence peddling in granting apartments and credits at the Florida Cristal Building. Ricardo Matheus filed this report:

[Begin recording] [Matheus] Rios and Sanchez and their defense attorneys, who were appointed after details of the investigation were read, requested a trial and suspension of the penalty, but did not appeal the tribunal's decision.

The defendants arrived at the tribunal under heavy security by the National Guard, which mounted strict measures at and in the vicinity of the tribunal building while the defendants were present. Antonio Rios said very little but his attorney, Aquiles Lemus, commented on the case:

[Unidentified reporter] What are the grounds for your request for conditional release?

[Lemus] Article 7 of the Trial Law calls for a maximum sentence of five years. In this case, the article in question calls for between two and four years. This tribunal has on various occasions decided not to apply Article 103 of the Trial Law and apply Article 71 of the Constitution. This has been (?done) repeatedly but it is the tribunal which will decide to grant it or not.

[Matheus] As for this trial, Rafael Quintero, president of the Higher Tribunal for the Protection of Public Property, said the investigation continues to establish whether there were other irregularities:

[Quintero] They testified under the advice of their defense attorneys and asked the tribunal to grant them conditional freedom [libertad en regimen de prueba], which is known as submission to trial [sometimiento a juicio].

[Reporter] When will the tribunal rule on this?

[Quintero] In due time.

[Reporter] When will that be, Magistrate?

[Quintero] Summary proceedings specify no deadlines.

[Reporter] Could it be on 3 September?

[Quintero] It could start on 3 September if the tribunal believes the requisites [extremos] specified by Article 7 of the Trial Law have been completed. The tribunal may also use discretionary powers granted by that law.

[Matheus] The president of the Higher Tribunal for the Protection of Public Property said investigations into other aspects of the influence peddling charges against Rios and Sanchez will continue. [end recording]